

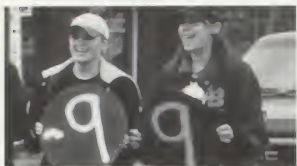


Once in a Lifetime

Reflector 1999



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Front Cover:
Jim Pickett, Ryan Hill, Mark Forster, Lena Stierhubel, Christine Woerner, Melissa Stickleton, Suzanne Wargo, Bridgette Wayo, Sara Grudzen, Jennifer Ranta, Lon Mills
Back Cover:
Christina Federenko, Ryan Hill



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the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are aged 65 and over has increased by 1.5 million (1990–1999) and is projected to increase by a further 1.5 million by 2010 (Office of National Statistics 2000).

There is a growing awareness of the need to develop strategies to meet the needs of the ageing population. The Department of Health (2000) has identified the need to develop a 'new paradigm' of care for the ageing population. This paradigm is based on the concept of 'active ageing', which is defined as the process of optimising the opportunities for people to lead healthy, active and secure lives in old age. The Department of Health (2000) has identified a number of key areas for action in order to achieve this paradigm, including: (1) promoting healthy living; (2) promoting social participation; (3) promoting security; and (4) promoting the role of the individual in their own care.

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Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Once in a Lifetime

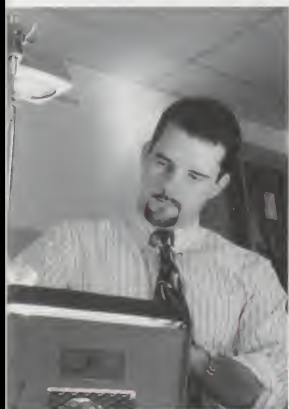
Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Clockwise From Top: Seniors Nicole Voges, Suzanne Wargo, Jennifer Ranta, and Angela Kozup talk to a police officer about the cancellation of Activities Night during Homecoming week. The Pantherettes make a number one during practice over summer vacation. This was the first year the Pantherettes had to go to Highland High School for practice. Scott Fech, French, puts vocabulary words on the overhead projector for students to copy. Fech started Jeans this year, which means "I write."

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Enrollment 962
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Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Once in a Lifetime

As the doors of GHS opened to the last school year of the millennium, many of the 962 students attending didn't know what to expect. With new students, new teachers and a reconstructed administration, who knew what could happen. After the first week of school, many changes had already taken place. For the first time ever, Griffith took on a female principal, Linda Einsele, who replaced Samuel Cox after 24 years while Donald Joson and Jeff Kubaszyk served as assistant principals.

With a new administration came stricter enforcement of some policies. Students found they could no longer buy cookies from the DECA room, wear anything that violated the dress code, or be late to class without the possibility of getting a Saturday school.

Although there were some restrictions placed on students, the school was also opened up in many ways. For the first time since 1983, the courtyard became an option for students who wished to eat lunch outside. The computer lab was available to students and the community after school two nights a week in the school library, and support groups were started to help students deal with their problems.

Straying from tradition, Homecoming's Activities Night, which is usually held on a Thursday, was canceled due to rain and was replaced by an Activities Day Friday during the school day.

Corporal Marlene Starcewich took over the Students Against Driving Drunk organization and for the first time SADD staged an act with the Grim Reaper for Red Ribbon Week, Oct. 26-30 and held a convocation in the auditorium before Christmas about drinking and driving.

With so many new things going on in the school and all around it, the year promised to be filled with challenges, changes, and plenty of opportunities for achievement. No one really knew what could happen, only that the year would be filled with many *Once in a Lifetime* experiences.

-Nicole Voges



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Cheering her team to victory, senior Stacy Budner watches a football game. Budner has been a Pantherette for three years, performing at half time of both football and basketball games.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Tooting their horns, sophomores Adam McCarter and Ryan Horn and seniors Brian Betts and Jason Seat practice during the summer in Highland. "It would have been nice if we would have been able to practice at Griffith," said senior Shaun Doyle, drum major, "but conflicting schedules prevented that."

Touching up their make-up, seniors Koriann Nagy and Nichole Ploskonka enjoy the rest of lunch. "It was so much more peaceful to eat in the courtyard than the over-crowded cafeteria," said Nagy.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Putting up a sign for her locker buddy, junior Vanessa Hooper decorates senior Patrick Fuentes' locker before the Hobart game. Hooper has been in Booster Club for three years and has decorated a locker for two years.

Participating in spirit week, seniors Jennifer Ranta, Jacqueline Rousseau, and Traci Duncan dress up for 80s day. "I'm not afraid to be different, or look like a punk rocker," said Duncan. "You only live once."



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Tony Papp

And You May Find Yourself...

...at the SADD presentation
"It was very tear-jerking," said sophomore Selena Saldana. "The presentation was so personal. I was picturing it happening with my friends."

...at Activities Day
"It was the most exciting school activity I've ever participated in," said senior Brian Batanic.

...in the computer lab
"I worked in the computer lab after school so I'd actually get my paper done," said junior Victoria Anderson. "It was easier it do it at the school after school."

Looking out on the field, junior Nicholas Crawford watches his team's defeat. The Griffith Panthers lost in regionals to the Plymouth Poodles. "I can't believe it's over," said Crawford. "We worked so hard during practices, watching films and hoping it would pay off. It's a season to remember."

Living it Up

New faces, new experiences, and a new atmosphere were all things embraced by the Griffith High School student body as they headed back to school in the fall of 1998.

Dealing with a somewhat disturbed Homecoming Week, an earlier Turnabout, and some new and revised rules left some students stressed out. In the midst of all of the activities, students searched for ways to budget their time and preserve relationships, while a new administration worked to establish law and order in the school.

While school was stressful for some, weekends proved to be an escape for nearly everyone. Whether it was heading to the local bowling alley, Round the Clock, Showplace 16, or just to a friends house to hang out, most students found the weekend to be a time to relax.

Between school, work, and other activities, students found that they could experience many things that would stick with them for a lifetime.

-Nicole Voges



Photo by Deanna J. Swenson Jr.



Timeline

First day of school
August 25

Waiting to receive his schedule, junior Justin Abright fills out a sheet to register for school. Seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen all registered on different days.

November 20, 21, 22
Fall Musical

Homecoming
October 2

Turnabout
December 5



March 18-22
Spring Play

Spring Break
March 29-April 2

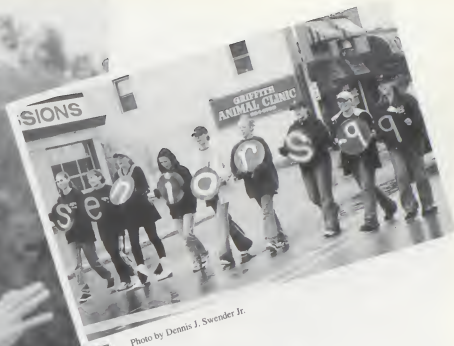


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Strutting their stuff, seniors Christine Woerner, Melissa Steapleton, Suzanne Wargo, Bridgette Wayo, Sara Grudzien, Jennifer Ranta, Lori Mills, Traci Duncan, and Marisa Garibay walk down Broad Street in the rain for the Homecoming Parade.

Gong for the win, senior Katy Schmel tries to stop sophomore Julian Gajewski during the powder puff football game at Activities Day.

Having The Time Of Your Life

...at Turnabout

"After Turnabout we went to the House of Kobe and the chef set himself on fire," said sophomore Sarah Handley. "He just poured oil on his apron and lit a match."

...over summer vacation

"My family and I went to Las Vegas for the summer and we were at Caesar's Palace," said junior Beth Connell. "My sister and I were singing Karaoke and we got lost from our parents. We walked all over the hotel and finally found them two hours later."

...over Christmas break

"I went to a concert and on the way home we got into a six car pile-up accident" said senior Melisa Smilowski. "We were in an it'sy-bitsy Geo Metro."

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

May 7
Prom

Graduation
June 11

Student Life
Divider

Being lifted to the top of the pyramid, freshman Tre Popa helps lead a cheer. Popa participated in the boys' cheerleading competition during Activities Day where the boys' cheer led for the powderpuff games.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Tony Papa

Showing their panther pride, sophomores Michelle Prewitt and Amber Price decorate downtown Griffith. Booster Club members painted town windows for homecoming to show school spirit.

Letting the town of Griffith know how much spirit he has, senior Jason O'Donnell stands on his car in the parade. O'Donnell has decorated his car for two years, and it served as class car both times.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



During a victory dance, junior Sarah Bacan makes merry in the end zone during the junior-senior powwow. Griffith football gains: Bacan helped lead the juniors to victory in the game.

Coring members pose for their traditional picture in the courtyard. They were selected by the senior class and the King and Queen were chosen by the whole school.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Homecoming.... did you know?

~Griffith has not lost Homecoming in 7 years.~

~"Activities Night" became "Activities Day."~

~30 people attended the dance.~

~Juniors won Spirit Week.~

~Shaving cream fights were a popular activity.~

~Halls were decorated for the first time.~

~It has rained on Homecoming 2 years in a row.~

Rain Rain Go away

Homecoming week started out warm and cozy but ended up cold and wet. Students came to school on Monday in their pajamas to kick off spirit week. At the game blankets, winter coats, and umbrellas were common sights.

The rain came down hard on Wednesday, canceling Activities Night, despite the effort of students to keep it on. Through the effort of Student Council, Activities Night was rescheduled for Friday during sixth and seventh hours.

"Activities night definitely didn't turn out as planned," said junior **Diana Ballas**, Student Council president. "But with some quick thinking we managed to handle it pretty well."

Also due to the inclement weather, the band and Pantherettes were missing from the parade and the game. The decision not to perform was one not liked by many.

"We were really disappointed that we didn't get to perform," senior **Nicole Voges** said. "It was a whole lot of work for nothing."

The turnout for the football game was good, but as the weather worsened, most fans left at half time. Some loyal fans, such as junior **Vanessa Hooper**, did not let the weather bother them.

"I stayed the whole game," Hooper said. "I don't think the weather should matter, people should stay anyway."

Despite the weather, students and faculty still came together to make things work for Homecoming and Spirit Week.

~Amanda Greulich



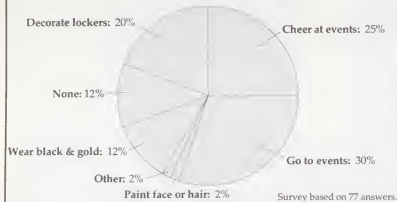
Decorating the hall for the homecoming hall decorating competition, Freshmen **Craig Van Gorp** and **Lauren Chappell** sit back and cut out decorations. The juniors won the first ever hall decorating contest.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Where's the Spirit?



It's Friday. That means another football (or basketball) game. That also means black and gold decorations on the lockers and students decked out in their favorite GHS attire. As you scan the hallways, though, on any given Friday you will find that not everyone is participating.

"I don't feel like doing things for school," said junior **Matt Rusch** who is one of those people.

Although many students have next to no school spirit there are more people who do. Students like junior **Mirjana Vlahovic**.

"I'm really proud of our football team," said Vlahovic.

Decorating lockers, making posters and performing are ways the Pantherettes show school spirit.

When you think of school spirit you probably think of senior **Jason O'Donnell**. He's been seen leading the Panther Pit, driving around in his panther-car, and running around as the 'G-Man.'

"It's fun. I like dressing up and acting all crazy," said O'Donnell.

School spirit may not have been as big as it could have been, but that didn't stop the avid supporters of GHS, who continued to decorate and dress up for our athletes.

-Eric Salczynski

Spirito

de la Escuela



Killing time at a football game, sophomore **Daniel Riordan** and senior **Kyle Plesniak** display their signs. Riordan and Plesniak made signs for all but two games. "We did it to support the team," said Riordan.

Get into the crowd, too! Senior **Kristy Florey** talks to a fellow fan. Florey was one of two people who acted as the moderator. "I don't know why I tried, but I just thought it would be fun."



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Tony Rapa



Photo by Eddie Covarrubias

Cheerleaders on the boys' basketball team, juniors **Nick Crawford** and **Jason LeBata** deserve the action of a home game versus Lake Station. "I'm a dedicated fan," said LeBata, who went to every game.

The 1998 Panthers unite on the field for the last time during the final seconds of the fourth quarter. The sectional championship team's final record was 9-4.

Playing off the real cliffs, junior Lisa Skura finds time aside from helping others to enjoy herself. Skura went on a mission trip to the Dominican Republic with her church's youth group.



Photo by Chris McCormick



Photo by Jenny Dalach



Photo by Scott Fitch

Taking a scenic cruise down the Snake River, senior Shaun Doyle and junior Victoria Anderson enjoy some free time while in Panguitch. "It was a really great experience," said Doyle. "It was the first time I had ever been out of the country and I could do it again I would."

Following the respect, senior Elizabeth Wilson and freshman Heather Cline paint a run down cottage. Wilson and Cline renovated old houses for the First United Methodist Church of Griffith. The work camp was held at Epworth Forest, North Webster, Indiana.



Photo by Dennis J. Swander Jr.



Making sure everything is secure, sophomore **Paul Dalach** fastens his harness just before climbing the Rocky Mountains for the first time. Dalach visited Colorado with his family during the summer.

Kidding had after a volleyball match at a journalism camp at Ball's Cove, juniors **Annamia Hecht** and **Eric Salczyski** take a break. "Photo editors had the privilege of working with professional photographers," said senior **Dennis J. Swender Jr.**



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Fondest Memories

"I met girls from New York when I was getting knocked over by waves in the ocean. I went there for a summer baseball tournament."

-senior **Ian Flores**



"The best thing I did was ride the Tower Of Terror when I visited Disney World. It was better than the Giant Drop."

-junior **Kandis Knight**

Distant Opportunities

Family vacations are what most students are familiar with. However, many students traveled their own distances this In June, **Scott Fech**, French, and 32 of his students toured various parts of France. Students had been fund raising throughout the school year to help out with the cost. Students visited many tourist attractions during their stay in France where they found things cost more there than to the United States.

"A Big Mac was four francs, which is eight U.S. dollars," said junior **Matt Thon**.

Through donations and church funding, senior **Rachael Nichols** went with The First Christian Church of Dyer's church youth group earned their way to Bainbridge, New York to help needy areas by painting houses and building decks.

"I thought that it was really cool how a bunch of students came together from the U.S. and Canada for one purpose, to help those in need," said Nichols.

York Beach Maine is senior **Jacqueline Rousseau's** favorite place to be during the summer.

"It's relaxing to have the beach a block away," said Rousseau, who stays at her grandmother's cottage.

-Sara Grudzien

For the first time in two years, the elementary schools of Griffith refused to allow the elementary students to view the fall musical.

According to junior **Madelyn Moore**, who played "Betsy" and a Fandango Hostess, the play was canceled because the schools believed that the show would affect the morals of the elementary students.

"I completely disagree. We would have cut out the worst parts of the show," said Moore.

A drawback to the musical was the large cast. For senior **Jennifer Huesken** the hardest thing was trying to teach traditions to the new members and keep them in line.

Nevertheless, Huesken and the rest of the cast enjoyed their time together.

"Even though it was hard and took a lot of time and effort, we became a cast," said Huesken. "We stood by each other when times got tough. We supported each other when our spirits were down. We made each other laugh and we made each other cry. Together we made memories." -Eric Salczynski

Children Not Admitted

Sweet Charity Superlatives

Best Actor/Actress-

Jason Tomcsi / Sarah Kagel

Best Supporting Actor/ Actress-

Mike Cservenak / Diana Ballas

Best Actor With a Walk on Role-

Jason Lundquist / Krysten Fane

Most Improved-

Chuck Lau / Carey Baccino

Best Attitude-

Scott Negrete / Amanda Nichols

Outstanding Band Members-

Ian Watkun / Dale Rudzinski /

Nikki Dimovski / Kyle Plesniak /

Nina Federenko / Laura Huber

Outstanding Crew Members-

Matthew Najar / Daniel Vessell /

Justin Falk / Craig Van Gorp

Outstanding Make-Up Artist-

Sarah Jansen / Rebecca Amos

Directing the actors, Gerry Spojewski instructs senior **Sarah Kagel** and the rest of the cast on what to do during their rowdy scene. Kagel starred in the title role of *Charity*.





Photo by Annie Hecht

Moving the elevator uses in the rehearsal space, Junior Everett Mull moves the music. Mull was one of rehearsal members. "It was hard to move the sets with limited light and gear," said Mull.

Practicing the Rhythm of Life dance, under Lisa Skura, Mirjana Vlahovic, Madeyn Moore, Christina Govert, Julie Newman and sophomore Amanda Nichols strut their stuff. "The dance involved the whole cast and was hard to learn," said Newman.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Annie Hecht

Dancing together in the Frug scene, Junior Chuck Lau and sophomore Elizabeth Guzman take center stage. Lau, who also starred as Herman, is a veteran thespian at Griffith, but this was Guzman's first play.

Photo by Kerin Saha

For most of us, adjusting to a new schedule every semester is difficult. But what about adjusting to a new home, city, and job? That's what was in store for some of the new teachers, coaches, and administrators.

Nancy Branyan, science, said she was glad to return to northwest Indiana, which had been her home for most of her life.

"My previous school was rural," Branyan said. "Griffith is urban, so the hardest thing is the traffic and snow. There was never a traffic jam in Henry County."

The new baseball coach, **Brian Jennings**, English, said he didn't feel pressure here.

"Coach Iwema did a great job," Jennings said, "but I feel pressure is what a person puts on themselves. I try not to do that."

Jennings said he looked forward to being successful and taking Griffith to a new level. -Susan Huss

Same School, New Faces



Photo by Annie Hecht

Talking to Margie Keithley, consumer sciences, Mary Tomsel, consumer sciences, asks Keithley a question about the lesson plan. Tomsel took over Child Development 2 after Keithley taught Child Development 1.

Checking things out, principal Linda Einsele talks to Luann Morgan, the new cheerleading sponsor, and Wilma Kasper, squad mom, before a football game. Einsele was formerly the principal at Lake Central Freshman Center.



Instructive adviser Mary Zubrenic, Brian Jennings, English, conducts a lesson. Jennings also took over the "Jeebus" team. "I transferred here because the guys were one of the top 500 in the state and I wanted an opportunity to take on a challenge."

Looking over his class, Eric Schreiber, social sciences, made sure all are concentrated on their assignment. Schreiber, who started teaching last year, graduated from Griffith High School in 1990.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Doing her daily task, Sherry Kayden, attendance secretary, enters names in her computer. Kayden, who worked at Munster before, said, "I've always lived in Griffith and always wanted to work here."

Looking over the book system, Wayne Eichensehr and Les Curnow, maintenance, fix the new cameras. This was the first year that Griffith had security cameras in the high school.

Sorting out documents, Brenda Price, school treasurer, looks over some papers. Price, who was originally the guidance secretary, now serves as a secretary in the main office and has worked at Griffith for eight years.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Staff Members

Susan Brown - Secretary
Brenda Price - Secretary
Sheree Kayden - Attendance Secretary
Kim Vessell - Guidance Secretary
Nancy Weaver - A.V. Secretary
Les Curnow - Maintenance
Sharon Beam - Custodian
James Bratcher - Maintenance
Jerry Brown - Maintenance
Wayne Eichensehr - Maintenance
Veonda Gerber - Custodian
James Jolink - Maintenance
Jane Korzeniewski - Custodian
Jim Messmer - Maintenance
Linda Rahmstorf - Custodian

Ron Reid - Custodian
Jacqueline Smith - Custodian
Carol Stammis - Laundry
Harry Stolte - Custodian
Jill Vido - Custodian
Cecil Wright - Custodian
Carol Baessler - Bus Driver
Margaret Blahunka - Bus Driver
Eva Darty - Bus Driver
Suzanne Fisher - Bus Driver
Carolyn Hayes - Bus Driver
Henry Magiera - Bus Driver
Diane Spillman - Bus Driver
Tracie Thompson - Bus Driver
Andi Wright - Bus Driver

While there are many teachers and administrators in Griffith, there is also a group of people who go largely unnoticed. These are the people that clean the cafeteria, empty the trash, sweep the halls, fix the air conditioners and generally make the school a better place to be.

Many of these employees like working because of the wide array of personalities they get to encounter.

"I enjoy working at the school because I get to interact with all the children," said Cecil Wright, custodian. "I also enjoy the people I work with."

Not everyone gets to associate with the students, though. Some maintenance members can only work before or after school.

"I don't get to meet many of the students because maintenance usually works before and after school," said James Bratcher, "but I get to talk about various sports with some of the coaches."

Without these unsung heroes, it would be impossible for the school to function. -Josh Martin

Whistle

While You Work



Performing his duties, Officer **Greg Stevens** talks to some students about the offensive language displayed on their windshield. Stevens took the place of Marlene Starcevic who was promoted to corporal.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

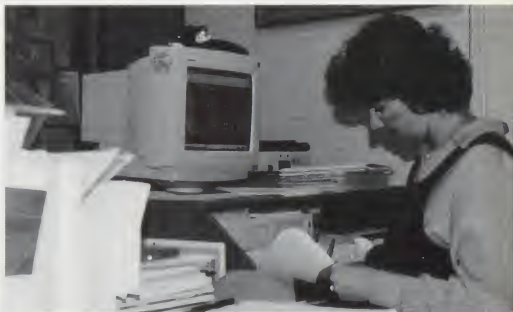


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Mopping the floor of the DECA room, **Jacqueline Smith** and **Linda Rahmstorf**, custodians, help the students clean up the water. The DECA room flooded at the start of school as a result of a faulty air conditioner.

Working at her computer, **Kim Vessell** proofreads and edits grades for the semester. As guidance secretary, it was Vessell's job to put all the students' grades into the computer.

Who am I going to ask? When should I ask them? How should I ask them? These are just a few of the exciting and stressful questions that ran through many girls' minds as Turnabout came closer.

On December 5, 1998, many students piled into limos and cars and headed to St. George's Greek Orthodox Church for a night full of fun and dancing. The students weren't the only ones who enjoyed themselves that night.

"The best part of the evening was seeing Mrs. Einsele getting down on the dance floor," said freshman **Danielle Trueblood**. "I never thought I'd see that."

Some people thought the night was flawless. That wasn't the case for everyone though.

"I was walking up the stairs before the dance and I ripped the bottom of my dress," said sophomore **Kelly Gerdes**. "but I didn't let it ruin my evening."

No matter the circumstances, most students enjoyed themselves and made memories that will stick with them for a lifetime.

-Brandi Harveth

Dangerous

On The Dance Floor



Photo by Anne Hecht

Juniors **Shelly Hively** and **Melissa Ryan** dance together at Turnabout. Ryan attended the dance with junior **Kyle Anderson** from Lake Central. The theme of this year's Turnabout was "It'll be Yours."

Senior **Jamie Kunkemoeller**, juniors **Jessica Santos**, **Christina Lopez**, and freshman **Vanessa Martinez** get down on the dance floor. For the first time ever, Turnabout was held in December instead of February.





Photo by Annie Hecht

Sophomores Carrie Petroski, Nikki Geffert, and Omar Gonzalez dance at Griffith's annual Turnabout. Petroski and Geffert rode to Turnabout together in their limo. The two live across across the street from each other and are best friends.

Seniors Sarah Kagel and Sarah Jansen get their hair done at Patricia Sims' house before Turnabout. Mrs. Sims has two daughters at Griffith High School, freshman Laura and junior Pamela.



Photo by Annie Hecht



Photo by Annie Hecht

Dancing to a slow song, sophomore Elizabeth Guzman and freshman Adam Brownfield enjoy a dance together. The Turnabout prince and princess were sophomores Jason Alexander and Selena Saldana.

Completing an order, junior Erica Quiroz gives a customer his change. Many students found it necessary to take on a part-time job in order to pay for automobiles and their upkeep.



Photo by Annie Hecht



Photo by Dennis J Swender Jr.



Photo by Annie Hecht

Taking a break, seniors Chris Romero and Ian Wotkun find some time to talk. "Whenever business is slow, we can pretty much do whatever we want," said Wotkun.

Loading a shopping cart, senior Kristen Wilczynski prepares to carry out some groceries. "I like working [at Strack and Van Til's] because I get a steady supply of money, but sometimes it's difficult to put up with the managers," said Wilczynski.



Photo by Annie Hecht



Serving a customer, senior Amy Hamew checks the register for the total. "One of the things I like about working at Bo's is that I'm able to do my homework there instead of having to wait until I get home," she said.

Handing a customer their food, junior Tami Werner works at the drive-thru window at Wendy's. In addition to purchasing cars, many students also got jobs just so they would have extra money in their pockets.

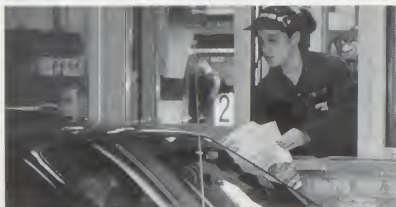
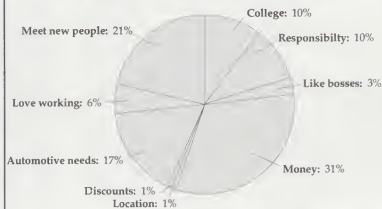


Photo by Dennis J Swender Jr.

Why do we work?



Survey based on 127 answers.

We're in The Money

Besides the seven hours that students spent at school and the other two to three hours at home for homework, some actually had enough energy left for a job.

Many students who had a job worked at places where there were benefits offered. Many businesses gave their employees special rebates on items.

"I get discounts on clothes and working allows me to interact with different people," said junior **Kandis Knight**. "My job takes away from my free time, though."

Some students chose to work for other reasons. A few even chose to give their hard-earned cash to respectable charities. "I donate some of my money to the humane society," said sophomore **Rodrigo Gomez**. "I enjoy helping all the cute puppies."

Regardless of what the money went towards, more students had jobs. As a result, many students found that they had to work harder in order to keep their job while maintaining their school work.

-Josh Martin and Jessica Everhart

Sipping coffee at the Foggy Bottom, seniors **Rachel Nichols** and **Megan Clarke** enjoy the band playing in the background. Nichols and Clarke go to the Foggy Bottom every month.

Line up a shot at Gratzdust Bowling, sophomore **Elliot Miller** prepares to take the seven ball. Miller isn't a professional, however he does enjoy playing a game or two every once in awhile.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Weekend Info

~25% spend time with their significant other.~

~10% spend time with their family.~

~54% hang out at a friends house.~

~37% go to the movies.~

~12% do nothing.~

~19% play or practice a sport.~

~12% go out to eat.~

~17% got to a sporting event.~

~12% work.~

~10% go bowling.~

~8% go shopping.~

Survey based on 54 students.

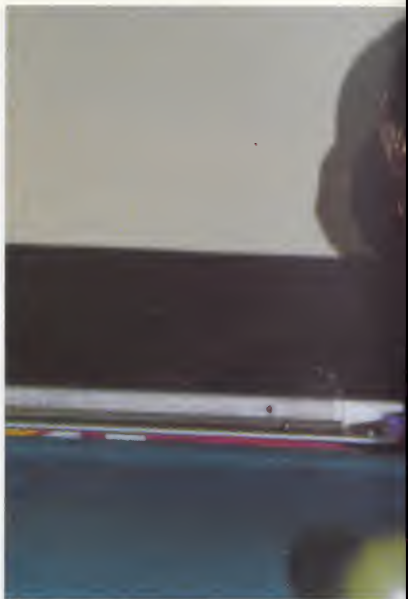


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

It's 8:30 on any Sunday morning and junior **Pamela Sims** is waking up to get ready for church. She's been the organ player for a Lutheran church in Hammond for two weeks.

"It's hard to get up, because I stay out late on Saturday, but I like it. The people are nice and I get paid \$35 an hour," said Sims.

Living a little more dangerously, senior **Stephanie Martin** goes off-roading in her spare time.

"It's interesting because I haven't died yet," said Martin, who has been off-roading for about eight months. "I have to be careful not to get stuck."

The weekend isn't fun and games for everyone though. For junior **David Moore**, it's hard work. Moore works two jobs to get money for a better car; one at Pacific Sunwear as a salesperson and another at Jackson Hewitt as a page.

Whether the weekend is spent working or enjoying themselves, the weekend is still the weekend and no one can take that away.

-Eric Salczynski

Weekend Warriors



Senior model's junior Erin Gervais chews down on some french toast. Gervais spends her weekends dancing, working and hanging out with her friends.



Photo by Anne Hecht



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Gina Menchaca

Chowing down at "Frisco" in Griffith, senior Rebecca Amos hangs out with some of the yearbook staff after going bowling. Amos spends her weekends with her boyfriend at work.

Talking about the past week, senior Dennis J. Swender Jr. relaxes after church with his youth group. The three have been friends for four years. "They have been there for me through all the hard times that life brings," said Swender.

3 trolling down the hallway together, seniors Angela Krsak and Clinton Konopasek prepare to leave school. "The best thing is that he is like a best friend," Krsak said. "I can tell him anything and he always listens and tries to help."



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Joking around before school, seniors Nicole Huber and Amanda Jennings prepare for class. Huber and Jennings had been best friends since fifth grade. "She [Nicole] always does crazy things."

Partaking in shenanigans, seniors Gina Menchaca and Eddie Covarrubias have a blast during the shaving cream fight after the cancellation of activities night. Menchaca and Covarrubias had been friends since seventh grade.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Laughing at a fellow youth group member, sophomore David Haldi and freshman Nikki Love take a break at a Super Bow party. Haldi and Love met at their youth group.

Sitting on the ledge, seniors Stacy Buckner and David Camahan spend time together before school. Buckner and Camahan had been going out since their sophomore year.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

And the survey says...

Most important quality in a relationship
~Trust-27%~

Most important quality in a boyfriend/girlfriend
~Sense of humor-31%~

First thing you notice about a girl/guy
~eyes-31%~

Too much time together
~everyday-60%~

Survey based on 84 answers.

Pomptous Of Love

Complicated. Fun. Committed. Hard. Time consuming. Confusing. Interesting. Exciting. Relationships. No matter how experienced or inexperienced people are at them, they always take work.

"Relationships can be good as long as they contain the right elements," sophomore **Michael Jones** said. "For example, trust, honesty, faith, and communication; all of those are important."

Many people find going to school with their significant others can add to the challenge of making a relationship successful, especially in a school as small as GHS.

"Dating someone at the same school has its drawbacks," junior **Lara Gonzalez** said. "If you say something and someone hears it, it gets totally turned around and it can cause fights."

As hard as relationships can be, having a person you know is there for you can make it all worth while.

-Amanda Grcevich

Bringing Christmas cheer, senior **Jimmy Frazier** greets an elderly woman. Frazier played Santa when the creative stitchery class visited the Highland Nursing Home. The class brought stockings they made.

Gazing at a trick senior, **Patrick Fuentes** and junior **Vanessa Hooper** spend Christmas Eve together. They attended Midnight Mass. It was held at the First United Methodist Church.



Photo by Gina Menchaca



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

December Holidays

1. Hanukkah is also called The Festival of Lights since a candle is lit on a candleholder, called a menorah, every day of the eight-day celebration.
2. Christian Mexicans have a nine-day holiday called *Las Posadas*. They break pinatas full of presents.
3. Kwanzaa is a seven-day African holiday that many African-Americans celebrate. Each day, a new candle is lit, representing the seven principles of Kwanzaa.

Sleigh bells, snowmen, ornaments, cookies, and snowball fights. To some, these mean more than to others. Whatever the case, students have different ways of celebrating the holidays.

"We all go to my dad's friend's Christmas tree farm and pick out a tree and cut it down," said junior **Cassandra White**. "Then we take it back home and decorate it."

Sophomore **Marie Ritchey** said she enjoyed the holidays by spending time with her extended family. "My favorite thing was opening presents," Ritchey said. "I got luggage and a camera to take to Spain."

Sophomore **Anthony Potesta** said he displayed his holiday cheer by staying in a good mood.

"I tried not to get upset over things that usually make me angry," Potesta said. "The best thing about Christmas break was spending a lot of time with my girlfriend. We watched TV and babysat her little brothers."

The holidays were a time of family and cheer that everyone celebrated in their own way. -Susan Huss

Jingle

All The Way

Planting a kiss, senior Jamaal Bell gives a wet one to junior Arianna Hecht. "I kept asking Miss Brown if a girl was my Secret Santa because I was going to kiss them," Bell said.



Photo by Nicole Voges



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr

Strumming his guitar, senior Tony Papa entertains members of Quill and Scroll at their Christmas sing-along. He played in Pat and the Kinkajou, the band of the night. Twelfth its members later formed a hand-dialed Parallel Universe.

Photo by Nicole Voges

Giving clues, sophomore Philip Cadie plays Guesstures. Cadie was at a New Year's Eve party at senior Jerry Dalach's house. Later the party moved to Highline's Main Square where the group watched fireworks at midnight.

Can you imagine spending over five hours a week for three years on ice? That's how freshman **Nichole Goodwin** spends her free time. Monday through Wednesday she skates at Orland Park Ice Arena in Orland Park and on Thursday and Friday she skates in St. John. During the school year Goodwin doesn't workout until after school, but during the summer her day starts bright and early at 6:30 am.

Goodwin got started skating because of a friend from St. Louis. One day her friend asked her to come to a lesson and she agreed. Since then her love for skating has grown and she has competed several times.

"It was really fun to compete," said Goodwin who has competed in Vermont and has been asked to skate in Paris.

In the future, Goodwin plans to become a coach to make extra money.

"It would be something that would give me joy and hopefully also [bring joy to] the people I teach," she said.

-Eric Salczynski

I Skate Therefore I Am



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Presenting chain mail to Susan Patridge's first hour English class, senior **Jonathon Huff** explains what a mail coif is. Huff has a friend who makes and sells chainmail.

Strumming along with sophomore **Phil Cadle**, sophomore **Paul Dalach** teaches him the chords to a song that he made up. Dalach, who has been teaching Cadle for four months, charges \$4 for an hour and a half.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Annie Hecht

Smiling as showoffs, senior Jemai Kennedy prepares to serve the next customer. Kennedy took fifth place at a quick serve competition and advanced to state. "I was really excited when I won," said Kennedy.

Showing off his unusual talent, acting like a velociraptor, junior Chuck Lau hovers over senior Jamie Kunkemoeller in sociology class for a pack of gum. Lau discovered his talent one night while he was watching *Quick Wits* on TV.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Gina Menchaca

Stretching out, junior Erin Gervais warms up for dance class. Gervais, who has been dancing for 13 years, takes lessons at Jeanne's Dance Academy.

Getting dropped off by freeway, junior Elaine Parker gets a ride from her dad. Parker pushes her case, but no, an, however, when her dad is not using his car, Parker gets to use it.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Stopping off of the rig, sophomore Brandon Addison prepares for another day of school. Addison rides the bus to and from school every day. "I don't mind riding the bus; it's not that bad," said Addison.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Loading his friends in his car, senior Jason Angel shows seniors Chad Lukas and Joe Lavolette a drum head that he got from a Pantera concert. Angel drives his '89 white Camaro to school almost everyday.

Waiting for a ride, junior Katie Milligan looks through her purse. Milligan gets a ride home from school almost everyday.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

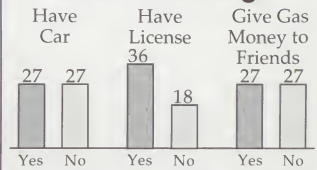


Pulling out of the crowded parking lot, senior Brian Gilbert leaves school. Gilbert doesn't like so many kids driving to school. "It should be seniors only," said Gilbert.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Who's Driving?



Survey based on 54 answers

The constant question, "How am I going to get there?" is something many students ask themselves everyday. Students who don't have their license find they have to rely on parents or friends for transportation.

Walking is something many students find themselves doing. Sophomore **Abigail Greco** usually walks to and from school everyday.

"I feel stupid walking because I have a letterman's jacket, but yet I can't drive," Greco said.

Other students have a license, but not a car to drive. Junior **Adrianna Aguilar** can only drive when her parents' car is available.

"When I can't drive I get a ride from my friends," Aguilar said. "I give them gas money, so they don't mind."

Getting rides with friends is popular among some students. Sophomore **Omar Gonzalez** said once in awhile he gets a ride from a friend.

"If I make a friend go out of their way to take me somewhere then I'll give them gas money," Gonzalez said, "but if I'm just going with them to where they are going then I won't."

Students had to decide either to get a ride from their friends or parents or to walk, but whatever they decided to do, they got where they wanted to be.

-Kellie Sternberg

Getting Around Town

Pumping some iron, sophomore Victor Sendejas works out in the weight room. Sendejas works out Mondays and Thursdays after school to condition for the oncoming soccer season.

oning his biceps, sophomore Nicholas Planer works on strengthening his arms, while working out. "We go to soccer conditioning to get stronger to compete with the bigger school," said Planer.



Photo by Matt Fliter

Most Desirable Bodies

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Matt Damon
Actor | 6. Scott Steiner
Wrestler |
| 2. Pamela Anderson
Actress | 7. Ben Affleck
Actor |
| 3. Will Smith
Actor/Musician | 8. Buff Bagwell
Wrestler |
| 4. Brad Pitt
Actor | 9. Hulk Hogan
Wrestler |
| 5. Jennifer Love-Hewitt
Actress | 10. Bill Goldberg
Wrestler |



How far would you go to have a body like Pamela Anderson or David Hasselhoff? For some students an everyday hard core workout does it for them.

Keeping fit and practicing healthy eating is a goal some students try to maintain.

"I try to stay out and not at home, because when I am at home I just sit around and eat," said junior Colleen Vechey.

Students are finding ways to stay trim through classes offered at school, the local gym, or being in sports

"I work out every day in APC (advanced physical conditioning) and I play soccer 2-3 times a week," said Vechey. "I work out after school too when I get a chance."

Sports also provide an opportunity for students to keep themselves in shape.

"I used to work out in my garage, but then football began and now I work out at school," said senior John Vanek. "I have no lifting plan, I just do what I have to do."

Even though some people are working out to prepare for their college athletic career and some are just keeping fit during the off season of sports, others just strive to tone their bodies to the likeness of their role models.

-Sara Grudzien

Work it

Baby, Work It



Photo by Matt Thier

It's a smart idea to make sure you're eating right along with eating a salad. "The reason that healthy behavior is more promising is that it makes sense," says Collins.



Photo by Annie Hecht



Photo by Dennis J. Swander Jr.



Photo by Jeremy E. Martin

Jumping rope outside the school, sophomore Brandon Addison stays puff. Addison runs, tracks and competes in track and field.

Working out, senior Lary Turner spots his lifting buddy, senior John Vank. "I won't mind to get ready for college football," said Turner.

Soaping in front of the school, junior **Brooks Smith** does along a cement wall. Smith has been asked by Solomon, a slate company, to soap for them competitively. "There's no why," said Smith. "I just do."



Photo by Tony Papa

Lining up the enemy in their sights, sophomore **Christopher Peacock** and junior **Matthew Najjar**, take cover in the grass. Peacock has been paintballing for four years.



Photo by Joshua Moon

Cuts, bruises, gigantic gashes and profuse bleeding. These are common, but minor setbacks to the extreme athlete.

You might ask yourself, "Why do these people do what they do?" It's different for everyone. Some people do it for the rush that they get, and others do it to relax after a long day.

"Due to the speed and strength of the sport [aggressive skating], it allows me to forget my worries and get rid of tension," said sophomore **John Jensen**.

Extreme sports aren't just aggressive skating and biking, they also include newer sports like paintballing and soaping, which is a new sport that has sprung up in the last two years.

"My friend Zoda, who currently rides for Solomon, got me into the sport," said junior **Brooks Smith**, an avid soaper.

Paintballing is another newer sport that recreates the experience of war in a safe way.

Junior **Matthew Najjar** is a paintballer. "It's a fun sport and it's something to do on the weekends that not everyone does," said Najjar.

Living on the edge can be exciting and exhilarating, but it's not for everyone.

"Every 30 seconds a teen makes it to the edge, but only a few jump," said BMX biker, junior **Ed Tropp**. "I am one of those few."

-Eric Salczynski

Life on the edge



Trick Names

**Frontside-Regular grind with legs
shoulder width apart**

Royale- Grind with bottom of shoes showing outward

Farvegnugen- Opposite of royale; top of shoes showing outward

Taberknackle- Grind with feet in duck like position

Pretzel- Opposite of Taberknackel

Backslide- Frontside while holding back foot with hand closest to it

Frontslide- Frontside while holding front foot with closest hand to it

Suicide- Backslide but hold front foot with hand further away

Unity- Legs crossed while grinding like a frontside

Cabdriver- Grind with both feet inward

U.F.O.- Grind with both feet outward and spread apart

Disaster- Jump from beginning of rail to farthest part you can and grind

compiled by Brooks Smith



Photo by Tony Papa

Concentrating on keeping his balance, sophomore **Nicholas Kaszab** grins in front of the camera. Kaszab, who has been skating for two years, got started when he and some friends got bored and tried some tricks. "I'm into it to have fun and do something different," said Kaszab.

Photo by Tony Pap

Dwight, getting up, senior Nicholas Brownfield took the break on the snowboard. Brownfield's first snow-riding experience was when he was 10. It's snow and stand up in his senior. He is a Pine and Pine S Lodge are some of his favorite places to snowboard.

Some seniors will go to great lengths to pull off a successful ditch day even through all the obstacles that would come their way. The spring student directed play "Ditch Day" was about some of the difficulties students will go through for just one fun day off. Sophomore **Selena Saldana** who played Misty, said there is a big task to overcome when you play someone unlike yourself. It shows how well you can act.

"A lot of us had fun exploring different characters," said Saldana. "Some people have parts really different from themselves."

According to senior **Sarah Jansen** (student director) there was a much bigger cast than usual. She said she enjoyed directing because everyone was fun and easy to work with.

"All the actors did well," said Jansen. "Everyone tried very hard and it paid off in the end."

Many cast members said the play was close to being accurate, but a little exaggerated when it comes to how students do act.

"It's a good play for students to relate to because we play teenagers," said Saldana. "We stay the same age but our characters are different than real life."

-Candice Peters

Taking a day off

Ditch Day Facts

Plot

Nine senior students plan their ditch day. After they go through all the trouble they find out they had the day off for a school holiday.

Dates

Friday, March 19 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 20 7:30 p.m.

Main Characters

Mr. Claypool-John Jensen

Miss Sparrow-Sena Govett

Cliff-Jason Tomcsi

Adeline-Diana Ballas

Becky-Katie LaFayette

Misty-Selena Saldana

Lydia-Erin Gervais

Jane-Vanessa Hooper

Wally-Dan Riordan

Matt-Adam Brownfield

Connie-Suzanne Wargo



Performing in the play, sophomore Daniel Riordan reads to his classmate, junior Vanessa Hooper. Riordan dressed as a doctor for his character, Wally. "I hope doctors is not too laughy to dressing and acting in that," said Riordan.



Photo by Kelli Schoon

Griffin performs as a soloist. Moore, Madelyn Moore, and Ananna Hecht get disappointed about that. It is more awkward from students that could make them in 10 to 15 minutes. A few students were also in the crowd.

Rebecca Amos, 18, is a senior. Nicholas Brownfield, 19, is a senior. They are both in the crowd. They are both in the crowd. They are both in the crowd.



Photo by Kelli Schoon



Photo by Kelli Schoon

Getting psyched up for the performance, senior Brian Patrick and sophomore Daniel Riordan get anxious to perform. "Before the show, the whole crowd would get in a circle and chant the words 'It's a party to get in the mood,'" said Patrick.

Photo by Kelli Schoon

Looking out the menu, senior Tiffany Vulepich with her date Drew Bly. Martin discusses what they are going to eat for dinner. "This is the first dance I have been to and it was great," said Vulepich.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Waiting for a picture during Lancers' hour junior Bonnie Eddy and Melissa Hart smile while senior Holly Smolinski takes the photo. For extra exposure, a video camera had to get positioned on their side.

Leading around the dance floor senior Anthony Washick gives senior Ryan Hill a piggy back ride. Washick's friend Hill's foot was broken.



Photo by Dennis Swender Jr.

The big night is over, but for most the fun isn't. For some this is just the beginning. There were many different places that students chose to go to on Saturday and Sunday, including camping out at Turkey Run or a day at Great America.

A day in the country, walking trails at Turkey Run is how junior **Matt Najar** spent his day after prom. "The best part of the day was when Derek [Blythe] pushed Lisa [Skura] into the creek," said Najar. "She was totally wet, it was so funny."

Junior **Pamela Sims** spent the whole day, from opening to closing, in the lines of the rides at Great America, along with many other teenagers that chose to go to G.A. that weekend.

"I waited in line to ride the Raging Bull [the newest ride at Great America] for about two hours," said Sims. "It was worth it, though."

While some students chose a peaceful day in the country, others chose the hustle and bustle of a major theme park, but most students said that their weekend was the perfect end to a perfect night.

-Candice Peters

The Fun continues

POPULAR RETREATS

Of Prom Weekenders

Turkey Run

47%

Potato Creek

20%

Great America

16%

Chicago

9%

Waveland Lake

6%

Indiana Beach

2%

Survey of 32 GHS students

Taking a break from activities, seniors Jason Angel, Eric Parsons, Patrick Fuentes, junior Vanessa Hooper, seniors Ian Flores, Sarah Kugel and junior Erin Gervais relax at Turkey Run. Camping was one of the most popular activities of prom goers the day after.

Photo by Sarah Kugel





Photo by Danyel Porter

Camping just at Turkey Run, where Holly Smolinski and Katy Schmeil want to spend more time. "It's the best," he says, "because you can be alone with about 20 other people."

Taking a ride down the river, so too Anthony Washick and Eric Macoszek are at Turkey Run. Besides tubing, Washick and Macoszek also hang out at night and went hiking.



Photo by Danyel Porter



Photo by Amanda Greulich

Spitting a bunch of words at the anti-fire, junior Anama Hecht entertains juniors Ramon Rocha and Brandon Fane at Pithead Creek. "Anama's really not like the kind of person that could chop wood," said Fane. "But she did a good job."

From left, the new seniors La'Tesha Adams, Rebecca Amos, and Mike Andre Jr. took their oaths. Adams, Amos, and Andre were just thrilled to get to the graduation. La'Tesha Adams was in the gym during the ceremony.



Photo by Kelli Schoon



Photo by Annie Hecht



Photo by Annie Hecht

Jiminyson or Emily Rutledge received a flower from Barbara Deleget, who is the senior class sponsor. After the ceremony, the girls were given a flower after they got their diploma.

After waiting his turn, senior Matty Jakowski prepared for the graduation ceremony. He had been in the gym for a while, and he was a member of the basketball team. "It felt like I was in a new chapter," Jakowski said. "I was going to study in the gym at Northwest and pursue a career in the future."



Photo by Kelli Schoon



Received his diploma, actor **Robert McElmurry** shares his own with class. "I received the diploma and I was like, 'I have a lot of things to do with my diploma,'" said McElmurry. "I'm going to miss this."

Plays for seniors, actor **Christina Federenko** battles her hormones and performance with the GAO. "I'm going to miss this," said Federenko. "I'm going to miss this."



Photo by Matt Filter

Top Ten

Valedictorian - Laura Zagrocki
Salutatorian - Karl Grimmer

3) Natasha Vukovic

4) Sarah Kagel

5) Melissa Steapleton

6) Justin Dimos

7) Dale Rudzinski

8) Carrie Hanchar

9) Jonathon Soverly

10) Jenny Ranta

The Time of our lives

Sad, exciting, scary. These words could be used to describe a high school graduation. Some seniors couldn't wait for graduation, while others were a little apprehensive.

Students like seniors **Patrick Riordan** and **Danyel Porter** are some who were excited for graduation.

"It [graduation] was something else," said Riordan, "I thought that I was going to be sad, but I have lots to look forward to."

"It's exciting," said Porter, "but sad at the same time."

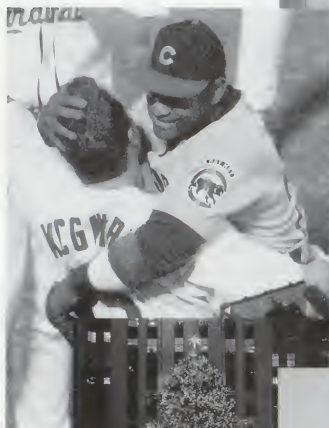
Many memories were made in the past four years of high school. There were so many memorable moments that not one particular one stood out in the mind of Riordan.

"The whole last two years were great and I made lots of friends," said Riordan. "It was choc full of memorable moments."

Graduating high school is a major step in the young lives of students. Ahead is a whole new world full of freedom that could be both exciting and dangerous.

-Eric Salczynski

Clockwise from bottom left: The Rockefeller Center Christmas tree stands in the Channel Gardens for the 60th annual lighting; Major league sluggers Sammy Sosa and Mark McGwire embrace after the game in which McGwire hit his record setting 62nd home run; An Iraqi child stands amid the rubble of a U.S. airstrike on Baghdad; Residents of Mobile AL wade through the flood water caused by Hurricane Georges; Kenneth Starr acknowledges applause after testifying in the Clinton impeachment hearings; Scott Brosius, World Series MVP, of the New York Yankees jumps for joy after the Yankees sweep the Padres; Iranian soldiers take part in military exercises near the Afghan border.



25 - First day of school
Einsele starts as new principal

27 - Mark McGwire hits 70 homeruns

29 - John Glen goes into space

August

September

16-21 - ISTEP Testing

28 - Hurricane Georges makes landfall

October 2 - Homecoming

26-30 - Red Ribbon Week



So another year has been swept under the rug of time. We've grown another year older and wiser. We've experienced highs and lows and shed tears of joy and also of sadness. Some of us will move on and experience greater things while the rest of us breeze (or stumble) through at least one more year of high school.

At the beginning of the year we saw the iron hand of a new principal, who was just playing by the rules. We cried as we mourned the deaths of Mrs. Margie Rice, science and Mr. David Shelton, in-school suspension supervisor.

In September, the underclassmen reluctantly waded through the countless hours of ISTEP testing, which had become mandatory to pass in order to graduate. We witnessed history on the baseball field as Mark McGwire broke the record for most home runs in a single season. We cheered as the football team crushed the E.C. Central Cardinals: 34-0. We trembled with fear as the Grimm Reaper traveled the halls looking for those who had "died" due to wreckless drunk drivers.

In November, we sweated it out while our parents chatted with our teachers at Open House, and we were entertained by the performance of the musical *Sweet Charity*.

In December, we had a blast and danced the night away at Turnabout. We watched as William Jefferson Clinton became only the second president in American history to be impeached. And happily, we took a much needed rest during winter break.

In January, basketball fans said goodbye to Michael Jordan as he left the basketball floor for the last time. We saw Pope John Paul II make what was probably his last trip to the Americas as he journeyed to St. Louis.

continued on p. 47



November

5 - Open House

7 - Newt Gingrich steps down as Speaker

19 - Presidential Impeachment trials begin

December

5 - Turnabout

20-22 - *Sweet Charity* performed

19 - Clinton impeached

21-Jan 4 - Winter Break

January

13 - MJ retires

26 - Pope John Paul II arrives in St. Louis

Year in Review 45



Clockwise from bottom left: The Space Shuttle Endeavour blasts off from Kennedy Space Center, marking the first U.S. assembly flight for the International Space Station; Capt. Paul Crandall signals from his F-15 fighter after landing at the NATO airbase in Italy. More than 400 aircraft were on standby to begin operations on Yugoslavia; After 32 days of captivity in a Yugoslavia camp, Staff Sgt. Christopher Stone, Staff Sgt. Andrew Ramirez and Spc. Steven Gonzales are released; 500,000 revelers celebrate the new year in Times Square as confetti pours from the skies; Thirteen people were killed and more than 100 injured in the Amtrak train crash in Bourbonnais, IL, which was caused by a semitrailer loaded with heavy steel bars.



February

2 - Job
Shadow Day

19 - Teen
Power lunh
Gary Dean

March

2 - JETS
competition

18-22 -
Ditch Day
performed

23 - NATO
bombing of
Yugoslavia
begins

26 - Swing
Into Spring
dance

26-April 2 -
Spring Break

April

20 - 14
students killed
in shooting at
Columbine
High School

22 - Honor
Society
blood drive



continued from p. 45

In February, we were blasted with one of the biggest snow storms in Griffith's history, yet we trudged through the snow and continued our educational quest, not missing a single day of school. We were enthralled by Gary Dean's presentation, *Teen Power*, in which we learned the five secrets of living a good life.

In March, we laughed during the student directed play, *Ditch Day*. We danced our way into Spring Break at the Swing Into Spring dance, then kicked back for a few days rest.

In April, we saw the horror of the Columbine shooting in which 14 students and one teacher were killed by members of the "Trenchcoat Mafia." We came together and gave our blood to those who needed it at the Honor Society blood drive.

In May, we honored our Top Ten students. We danced and laughed together at Prom, which was the last high school dance for some. We learned about some interesting jobs at the first GHS Career Fair. We laughed, cheered, and applauded as we watched the GHS Talent Show. The seniors recalled the past years at GHS at their Senior Banquet, but unfortunately ended up getting "sick" and missed school the next day.

Finally in June, we were awarded at Recognition Night. We listened to the music of the senior band and choir members at the Senior Recital. We cried again, not believing that Nick Taylor had really left us. We took our last tests of the year said our goodbyes on the last day of school. We celebrated (and maybe cried a few tears) as we watched our seniors graduate and move on.

Memories were made and good times were had. We made friends and sadly, lost a few too. We cried together and promised to write or call as we said goodbye for the last time. Someday, far in the future, we'll look back on these years in high school and remember all of the fun we had, wishing we could have kept them in a bottle.

-Eric Salczynski

May

5 - Top ten dinner

7 - Prom

8 - Attack on U.S. Embassy in Beijing

22 - GHS talent show

24 - Senior banquet

25 - Senior ditch day

June

2 - Recognition Night

6 - Senior recital

8 - Last day of school

9 - Yugoslav generals sign Kosovo peace agreement

11 - Graduation



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Grabbing a hot pan of cookies, senior Lena Steinhubel takes a bite of fresh from the oven. Living Spunk Meyer cookies were baked in the DBCA rooms in the morning and at lunch for student sale buy.

Living it up in...

...National Honor Society

"I joined because I wanted to help the less fortunate by community service and I wanted to be involved in projects for the school," said junior **Lindsay Beigle**. "It lets me be an example for the other students."

...Senior Class Council

"It makes me feel really involved in school. I've been on class council all through high school," said senior **Amber Hecht**. "I've had a lot of fun planning Turnabout, Prom and now the Senior Banquet and graduation."

...Spanish Club

"Having Spanish Club is a good way to get students informed and interested in the cultures and customs of different people," said junior **Susan Huss**. "Going to the Ballet Folklorico was a rare experience also."



Timeline

October 2
Homecoming Dance
Varsity Club

November 19-22
Washington D.C. Natl. Convention
Quill and Scroll Society

Spanish Club
Great America Fieldtrip
October 24

Student Council
Highland Nursing Home
December 20

Conducting an Honor Society meeting, Laura Zagrooki, right, smiles for an upcoming event. Zagrooki has been an Honor Society member for three years and served as president this year.

Sprawled on the floor, Karl Grimmer is joined by the Honor Society members, Brian Batanic, right, the Grimmer family and a student representative, as they present a donation to the school.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Life of the Party

From 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Monday through Friday all students are required to be at school, but before and after school is free time for most. Anyone involved in student clubs, however, knows that they spend much more time at school than the average student. Whether it's attending a meeting before school or staying after to plan an event, all clubs require extra time from their members.

Many clubs had to rearrange planned projects and cancel some annual activities. For the first time since 1987, SADD did not hold their annual lock-in. The Quill & Scroll lock-in was also canceled. Winter Homecoming, an event planned by Booster Club and Student Council fell through due to organizational conflicts.

On the bright side of the organizations scene, Spanish Club organized a trip to Spain, Honor Society held their annual blood drive, and Student Council planned a food drive and a talent show.

Whatever the circumstances, most student organizations adapted to new situations and found ways to help people in the community, plan new events and have fun while doing it.

-Nicole Voges and Josh Martin

March 8-12
Penny Project
S.A.D.D.

April 22
Blood Drive
National Honor Society

Wind Ensemble Band
Band Contest
February 27

Spanish Club
Swing into Spring Dance
March 26

Organizations
Divider 49



North Grade Aces From left to right, J. Nathan Fogarty, Jimmy Lattin, Brian Powell, Christopher Lutz, Peter Wotrud, Jeremy Wainwright, and Luke Powell. From back row, Michael McCann, Lawrence Mathison, and Chris Joseph. Third, Brian and



North Grade Aces From left, Scott Peterson, second row, Ray Smith, and Brian and Chris Joseph. Back row, Michael McCann, Lawrence Mathison, and Chris Joseph. Third, Brian and



North Grade Aces From left, Scott Peterson, second row, Ray Smith, and Brian and Chris Joseph. Back row, Michael McCann, Lawrence Mathison, and Chris Joseph. Third, Brian and



Looking out the window, in the background, senior Mary Zibrenic and senior Mary Zibrenic enjoy the view. Zibrenic and Zibrenic were in their way to visit a friend in England with the help of a traveling guide.

Looking out the window, in the background, senior Mary Zibrenic and senior Mary Zibrenic enjoy the view. Zibrenic and Zibrenic were in their way to visit a friend in England with the help of a traveling guide.





strutting down the runway, freshman Ben Weatherford models clothes for the sewing fashion show at the first Christian Church in Griffith. "The women really enjoyed us," junior Ananna Hecht said, "they actually asked us to come back."

Johnnie and his sister, senior Heather Gallier, attend the Secondary Cultural Symposium, an art competition at Vanderburgh University. "A lot of the people who I saw there were really impressive," Heather said.



Who would have thought that watching a dancer stick his leg over a fire or playing with a camera would be considered educational. For many students it was. Clubs took field trips to places all around the area as a way to enhance their education and broaden their horizons.

"We went to the Ballet Folklorico for Spanish Club," junior **Cassandra White** said. "We learned about Spanish culture in an interesting way and Jaci (Bolsega) and I got to dance on stage with the dancers."

Students found that at field trips experience can be a better teacher than just reading about it in a book. Journalism students participated in the annual J- Day presented by *The Times* at the Radisson Plaza in Merrillville.

"I went to a session on photography and I learned a lot more by seeing things hands on," junior **Michelle Cuneo** said.

Field trips proved that learning can be fun when you get a clear picture of what you are learning.

-Amanda Greevich

coming and going

students take learning outside the school

rolling in the dough

students raise funds to support various causes

While some students sold for personal benefit, others sold so they could get new equipment for their organization.

Whether it was free food or new equipment, many groups had to raise their own capital. With minimal outside aid, fund raising proved to be an effective way to do this.

-Josh Mart

-Josh Martin

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Annie Hecht



beginning time, junior Jaci Bolega leads the band at practice. As drum major, Bolega had to learn to direct many time signatures and keep the rest of the band in line. "Making about fifty students all do the same thing at once is really hard," Bolega said.

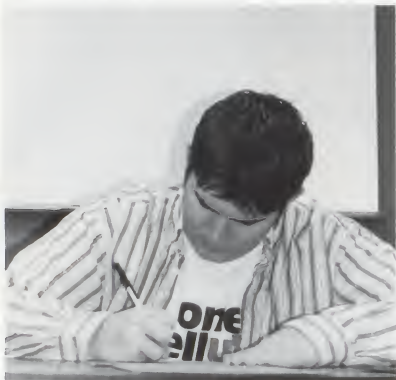


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

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Students from the Student Council and other groups posed for a photo. Some were dressed in Christmas attire. The photo was taken by the staff of the Highland nursing home.

Students from the Student Council and other groups posed for a photo. Some were dressed in Christmas attire. The photo was taken by the staff of the Highland nursing home.

Whether they passed out presents, sang songs, or dressed up in Christmas attire, members of the Student Council helped spread a little holiday joy to some elderly people.

Change of Heart

Students bring Christmas joy to the elderly

These 25 students visited the Highland nursing home armed with cards and presents. A selected few chose to dress up as Santa and his helpers to bring a smile to the elders' faces.

Junior **Colin Banta** said he didn't mind dressing up as Santa because no one really knew it was him.

"I felt really good about myself after I did it," said Banta. "The old people made it fun, so it made me get into it more."

Sophomore **Gregory Bowers** said he was really glad he went because it taught him how to deal with different types of people.

"The old people really seemed to enjoy us being there," said Bowers. "It was a good experience."

In the hectic schedules of many high school students these students showed they still had time to lend a helping hand to others in need.

-Candice Peters



During the day, senior **Nicole Voyges** participated in the A.P.E. basketball game held at Highland elementary school. The A.P.E. Fine Motor Skills team taught the fifth grade classes to talk about the dangers of drugs.

Giving almost \$2000, a representative from the Muscular Dystrophy Association awarded DCA for their good work as senior **Brandy Rockwell** watches.



Photo by Dennis J. Swander Jr.



Members of the National Honor Society, including the 1999-2000 officers, posed for a group photo in the bleachers. The officers are: President, Cynthia McFadden; Vice President, Dan McCoy; Secretary, Cynthia McFadden; Treasurer, Dan McCoy; and Student Body President, Dan McCoy. The group photo was taken by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



The National Honor Society members, including the 1999-2000 officers, posed for a group photo in the bleachers. The officers are: President, Cynthia McFadden; Vice President, Dan McCoy; Secretary, Cynthia McFadden; Treasurer, Dan McCoy; and Student Body President, Dan McCoy. The group photo was taken by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

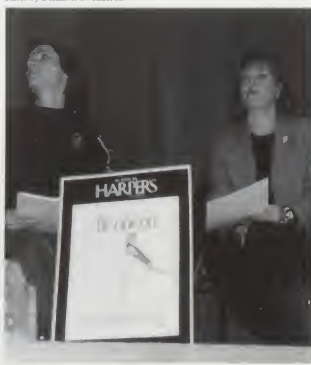


Photo by Eddie Covarrubias

Students then took all the annual awards drive sponsored by the National Honor Society, senior Cynthia McFadden and Dan McCoy, history, and P.H.T. There were 91 people who signed up to donate, and about 25 people worked.

Listening to SAAD president, Dan Linneman, Jane Mantel, a special guest speaker from MADS, and Cynthia McFadden, Marlene Starovich (senior), Mantel shared her tragedy of her son to a junior driver. Many students said they thought a lot more about the risk of driving and driving after allowing thoughts, again.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Junior Class Officers and Members: Joseph Thomas, President; John Adams, Vice-President; Amy Hovick, Sarah Ford, Brian Barnes, Justin Menden, Amy North, Paul A. Givens, David T. Jones, Tammie Austin, Martin, Patricia Smith, Matthew Alexander, Kristi Johnson, Alyssa Smith, Lauren Joseph, Kristi, Jonathan, Kelly, Joseph, David, Robert, Kristi, Patrick, Heather, J. M. Williams, Theresa Thomas, Lorie Givens, Amy Givens.



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Listening attentively, junior **Amy Medsker** sits in at a national honor society meeting. "I love it [Honor Society]," said Medsker. "It makes me feel involved in school."





Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

learned from competing with Sara Grudzen and Joshua Martin online for topics on the Internet at Brainerd College. "We were both really tired from competing, so we went to the library to go surfing and have some fun," said Grudzen.

Learning, so says Nicole Voges and Jenni Vaznonis conduct a Brainerd Club meeting as co-presidents in Tim Brown's room. Voges and Vaznonis have both been in Brainerd Club for four years and have been officers for two years.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Do you ever wonder what it takes to be a good leader for a club? Good looks? Great personality? Popularity? Many club members say experience is the key.

One good way of gaining experience is by working directly with the current officers.

"Working with the officers is a good idea," said junior **Jaci Bolsega**, secretary of Student Council. "You get to see how the club functions from a higher point of view."

There are also leadership camps to learn skills. Bolsega has attended the Student Leadership Institute at Ball State for three years.

"The counselors taught us more than just leadership skills," said Bolsega. "We learned about everyday problems, and they treated us like adults."

For freshman **Renee Wotkun**, Freshmen Class Council vice president, other club members got her motivated.

"People who are very involved made me want to get involved," said Wotkun. "I'm learning from them every day."

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Learning the ropes

club members learn how to take on bigger roles



Foreman Ensemble: *Front Row:* Cynthia Wilson, Jessica Padgett, Michael Hernandez, *Second Row:* Kate Hagertham, Brittany Paul, Jacob Seat, Nirmal Chmowski, Stefanie Fodorowski, *Third Row:* Amanda Nichols, Christina Fedorenko, John Melick, Anne Velco, Shaun Doyle.



Jazz Band: *Front Row:* Melissa Hernandez, Frank Vucich, Nicholas Dolezeli, Christopher James, Cynthia Wilson, *Second Row:* Jessica Thompson, Jessica Padgett, Kate Hagertham, Brittany Paul, David Hamel, Stephanie Fodorowski, *Third Row:* Vanessa Fodorowski, Amanda Nichols, Jacob Seat, David Barnes, John Melick, Christina Fedorenko, Shaun Doyle.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Anne Hertz

Carrying down the halls, members of "Jazz" include these hon-ton-hon-ton. There are jams every year in the last day before break at the grades house, as well as the high school, so they get to perform in the front of the part.

Preparing for competition, freshman **Craig Vuorch** plays the main bar outside of the band room. Vuorch was a member of percussion ensemble which went to state competition and won in first place.

Contemplating work is very hard, senior Anthony Washick listens to Barbara Deleget's ideas for Senior Banquet at a Senior Class Council meeting. Washick served as vice president in Senior Class Council.

Playing games at the Spanish Club's Swing into Spring Dance, sophomores Selena Bermudez and Kate Higginbotham try to pass a hula hoop between a mother. The dance was a fundraiser for students going to Spain.



If you're in a club you probably know how early the meetings can be or how enjoyable the different activities can be. What you may not realize is how much time and effort it can take

making things happen

Students help bring activities together

to plan those events.

"It takes a lot of time and work that many

people don't see," junior **Nancy Robles** said. "It's all the little things like sponsors, materials and helpers."

Having all the members of an organization pitch in can make a big difference.

"It helps because more people have more ideas and input, and things work better," senior **Shaun Doyle** said.

Whether it is a big decision or a little decision, having everyone help can change the way things turn out. *-Amanda Grceвич*



Freshman Association: (Sam David, Treasurer), (Michele
Singer, President), (Doree Wuthrich, Vice President), (Doree
Wuthrich, Secretary).



Expertise Life Group is a free, confidential group for women living with breast cancer. The group meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. in the Ball Room of the Sheraton Hotel, 1000 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004. For further information, call 1-800-4-A-TOGETHER or contact your local American Cancer Society office.



During its talks, Supremes Hillary and Mallory Bernath discuss their opinions at a Student Council meeting. Student Council was responsible for the planning of events such as the talent show, Homecoming, and the food drive.



Following over the material given out at the Prom meeting, Senior Colleen Strauch, then to Teresa Carstensen go over the rules for prom. Strauch was one of many students who attended the mandatory meeting for prom where voting for king and queen took place, rules were discussed, and a pledge was signed next to drink and drive.

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FFA Officers: Steve Hays, President; Andrew Tobias, Vice President; James L. Davidson, Jr., Secretary; Paul Tolson, Treasurer; Paul Givens, Cornbelt; David Kent, Animal Husbandry; Sara Gensler, Cornbelt; Ashley J. Newkirk, National FFA; Andrew Harris, Youth Development; Savannah Lyden, member.



FFA Officers: Matthew Smith, President; David Smith, Vice President; Brian Barber, Secretary; Amy Gensler, Treasurer; David Smith, Cornbelt; Andrew Harris, Animal Husbandry; Sara Gensler, Cornbelt; Ashley J. Newkirk, National FFA; Andrew Harris, Youth Development; Savannah Lyden, member.



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Prattling in the past, sophomore Abigail Greco is now in on a Booster Club meeting. To make windows with Booster Club and I dedicated the name, said Greco.





Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Working diligently, freshman **Jeremy Martin** gets things done during yearbook. Martin is the only freshman on the staff, having spent the year "taking pictures of things, so that's all I thought it would be fun taking pictures for the yearbook," Martin said.

Sitting patiently at the table, freshman **Courtney Johnson** and sophomore **Ryan O'Keefe** are out to be Spunkys. They are at the table, and O'Keefe bought 500 units of Spunkys to give out to parents.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Staying after school is not an idea most students like, especially if they don't have to. For some clubs, though, it's practically a necessity.

"We [Reflector] meet five times a week during the school day," said senior **Josh Martin**. "Of course, we are extremely diligent and hard working so we also meet every other Monday after school."

Other clubs realize that students don't always have time to stay after school so they choose to come to school early to accomplish their goals.

"The [Spanish Club] officers hold meetings every other Friday at 7:30 a.m. to discuss upcoming events and projects," said junior **Lara Gonzalez**, vice president of Spanish Club. "We do clothing and food drives and sometimes have fiestas."

For these clubs, the hours are long and the activities plenty, but it seems to be enjoyable time spent, for most involved.

"I love yearbook," said Martin. "It's the only fun activity this school offers so I throw all of my energy into it."

-Amber Hecht

going the extra mile
students find reasons to put
in extra time after school

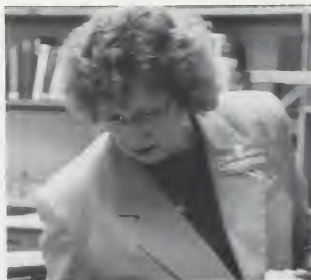


Photo by Jeremy L. Martin

Lawrence Hawthorne prepares for an ACEES sponsor. Hawthorne writes down information. Hawthorne has helped many educational transfers from eighth through ninth grade ACEES.

Michelle Jones gets squad members' input. Jones, in her first year as sponsor, was a Pantherette when she attended GHS.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

When we think of all that it takes to run a club we usually only think of the officers or the other members that participate. What we sometimes neglect to think about are the sponsors who are behind everything.

"I wanted to give kids an opportunity to do something after school," art club sponsor **Jim Graff** said. "We do stuff like work on projects, throw pottery, and I teach kids new stuff that they want to learn."

For some sponsors the decision to take over a club was influenced by a teacher in their high school days.

"I had an awesome Student Council sponsor when I was in high school," Student Council and Booster Club sponsor **Tim Powers** said. "I've wanted this job since the dawn of time."

Teachers can see clubs as a way to get to know students better, which to some is crucial.

"Sponsoring clubs allows me to have better personal relationships with students and to gain their trust," Powers said. "I really enjoy seeing kids interact in a non-academic environment. It's important."

-Amanda Greevich

forgotten heroes club sponsors help out behind the scenes

Time to Play Ball

Whether it was the crushing defeat some of the school felt as the football team was shut out by the Plymouth Rockies, the sheer excitement swimming fans felt as junior Timmy Krebs swam his way to a third place victory at state, or the adamant determination of the softball team as they battled against Munster for 16 innings in a scoreless game, various sporting events inspired a wide variety of emotions.

Aside from the players involved in the sport, parents, faculty and fans were engrossed in the events as well. Sports helped the community come together and function as one. Friends and families gathered together at senior nights in order to show their support for the graduating senior class athletes. Fans crowded into sectional and regional championships in order to support their teams.

Through all the victories and defeats, each team showed incredible camaraderie and stuck together through good times and bad, creating many memorable moments along the way.

-Nicole Voges, Josh Martin and Jessica Everhart

Giving each other a hug, seniors Jason O'Donnel and Christopher Troksa comfort each other after an emotional game. O'Donnel dressed up for and cheered on the soccer, football, and basketball teams in the fall and winter and played baseball in the spring.



Photo by Tony Papa

Photo by Tony Papa

Timeline

August 18
Win against Merrillville
Volleyball

October 2
Regional
Boys' Soccer

Boys' Tennis
Sectional
October 2

Football
Sectional Championship
November 6



Photo by Tony Papa

Shouting words of encouragement to his teammates, senior Ryan Hill is the heart of the team. He played both offense and defense on the varsity team, and was the MVP of the team. "My most memorable moment was beating Highland in the sectional championship," said Hill.

Pitching the ball, sophomore Sara Palmer goes for the strike. Palmer played JV and pitched the first game of a doubleheader against Kenway and won.

Time Out For Sports

...Golf

"I just play because I like golfing," said junior **Derek Blythe**. "It's relaxing and I just love the game."

...Boy's Tennis

"I went to a couple of tennis camps," said freshman **Mike Hernandez**. "My most memorable moment was when Mike [Regna] and I won the doubles division at Lake Station."

...Baseball

"I enjoy playing baseball because of the physical and most of all mental challenge that it brings," said junior **Kevin Suba**.

...Volleyball

"It was a good experience playing on JV because we got to work with the varsity and they taught us a lot about the game so we can improve for the future," said sophomore **Kimberly Frederick**.

April 29
16 innings at Munster
Softball

May 19
Win against Highland
Golf

Boys' Swimming
Conference
January 30

Baseball
Loss to Lake Central
May 14

Doing It Together

Looking down the hall, you see the normal black and gold team shirts. Then a flash of color catches your eye. It's the girls' cross country team in their tie-dyed shirts. This was just one example of how this year's team was very close and unified, which helped everyone improve.

"Most of us were out of shape at the beginning of the season," said junior **Dana Zukanovich**. "By the end, we were running better than any of us expected."

Even with all the team unity and support, staying motivated had to come from within.

"My motivation to run comes from myself," said senior **Laura Zagrocki**. "I think that once you start running, it becomes a habit."

Being close was the key to success. With only nine girls on the team, everyone had to do their part and support each other.

"We all got along and supported each other through hard times," said Zagrocki. "Since cross country is not a glory sport, your team has to be close to be successful."

By working together and practicing as a team, the Lady Panthers improved on their times as well as their friendships.

-Jessica Everhart



Photo by Tony Papa

The Numbers Add Up

7 Of the runners participated in another sport.

50% Of the athletes were on the team for the first time.



Front row: Samantha Noame, Allison Burges, Danielle Hennes, Laura Zagrocki, Tiffany Juarez. Second row: Dana Zukanovich, Jamie Hanchar, Tim Powers (coach), Camie Gritmer, Sarah Covert.



Shadow chasing

Lengthening her shadow, senior Carrie Hanchan is eager for the final meet at the end of her cross-country season. "I've enjoyed it because it was the last time I'll be competing," Hanchan said.

Taking a breather

After an a tough season, Laura Zagrocki relaxed after a long race at the Highland Invitational. "I haven't been running on the cross-country team since the beginning of year,"



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Caught in the middle

Figuring to pass her opponent, senior Samantha Adame was in the cross-country meet at the Highland Invitational when she was caught in the middle of a race.

Going the distance

Facing an uphill race, senior Dana Zukanovich stayed to finish on her team. Zukanovich finished the race on her team. "I was tired, but I was happy to be on the team," Zukanovich said.

Scoreboard

Place	
14th	Gavit Invite
18th	T.F. South Invite
9th	Lowell Invite
15th	Highland Invite
9th	Clark Invite
8th	Lake Athletic Conference Meet
7th	Sectionals



Photo by Tony Papa

Staying focused

Adding to his focus on the upcoming season, senior David Schaffnerberger prepares to sprint down the hill at Oak Ridge. Schaffnerberger can cross-country to repeat for the third season.



Photo by Tony Papa

Pushing 'til the end

Pushing himself to stay ahead of the competition, junior Josh Banning keeps his lead as he nears the finish of the meet at Oak Ridge. Banning felt he was going to pass out during the race, said Banning.



Front Row: Jeff New, Vesel, Jonathan Smith, Ryan Synopoulos, David Hoffman. Second Row: Scott German, Christopher Finnerty, Michael Servenik, Neil Dymis, Christopher Brookhart, Eric Salczynski. Third Row: Joshua Banning, David Schaffnerberger, Mark Petrovic, Tom Wells, Kozich, Kevin Watz, Ken Grimmer, Jason Pinnick.



Photo by Tony Papa

The Numbers Add Up

2 Of the runners from GHS made the All Conference Team.

5 New runners joined the boys' cross-country team.

Keeping loose

Stretching out before the cross-country meet at Oak Ridge. Junior Eric Salczynski watches the girls' cross-country team compete. Salczynski finished second in the team with a time of 18:34.



Sprinting to the finish

Jason Tomesi is not the best 400-yard sprinter with 8 other seniors, but he is a good one. He is the best of the boys' cross country team.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Scoreboard

Place

3rd	Gavit Invite
17th	T.F. South Invite
9th	Lowell Invite
15th	Highland Invite
8th	Clark Invite
7th	LAC Meet
7th	IHSAA Sectional

Why Do

They Run?

"What am I doing here?" was a question that frequented the starting line at boys' cross country meets. For junior **Jason Tomesi** running cross country was his way of supporting lesser recognized sports.

"Although I frequently asked myself why I ran, I knew that at least it would be over in twenty minutes," said Tomesi.

Senior **Scott Gierman** runs to remain in good physical condition.

"I joined cross country because I liked track last year and wanted to stay in shape," said Gierman.

Some people not only run for conditioning, but for pleasure too. Senior **Jeremy Bratton** is one of those few.

"(Cross country) is a challenge personally - it's also very addicting," said Bratton, who has run for three years straight.

The rest of the team said that they also liked this year. A lot of that had to do with a new coach, Tom Wells.

Wells wants to keep coaching. He wants to start early and keep practices enjoyable so the team will stay motivated.

-Eric Salczynski

Hitting hard

Swinging with it, tops middle Sarah Fry tries to spike the ball over her opponents. Fry started hot the season all in opposite hitles and finished as all girls as hitting.



Photo by Tony Papa



Varsity

Front row: Lindsay Lopez, Shannon Cowley, Andrea Mendez, Michelle Cunez, Lindsay Deles, Susan Huley, Annie Medsker, Emily Conkington. Second row: Nicole Popovich, Jessica Everhart, Kathleen Vardi, Michelle Castillo (coach), Erica Head, Jaquie Sanchez, Sarah Bagan.



Junior Varsity

Front row: Kimberly Fitzgerald, Selma Bermudez, Lindsay Borge, Michelle Popovich, Julie Rutledge, Angelina Alvarez. Second Row: Veronica Brice, Sarah Fox, Selma Salazar, Julie Whittemore (coach), Breanne Steaga, Julie Furger, Erica Gamett.



Photo by Tony Papa

Ready for action

Standing her ground, junior Jessica Everhart attempts to dig all right with junior Anne Medsker backing her up. Everhart was one of three starters who played both front and back row. Everhart was also a team captain.

Creating memories

Leaning over her helmet, junior Anne Medsker decorates the back of her shirt for sectionals. Coach Michelle Castillo bought putty pens so the team could decorate their shirts and sign each others.



Scoreboard

Us

Them

15-11-15	Merrillville	10-15-10
15-18	E. C. Central	2-16
15-15	River Forest	13-9
3-9	Highland	15-15
15-15	Lake Station	6-9
Crown Point Invite 6th place		
3-5	Andean	15-15
5-16-9	Hebron	15-14-15
15-15	Calumet	12-4
13-15-15	North Newton	15-10-12
11-15-9	Hanover Central	15-12-15
9-15	Lowell	15-17
18-9-15	Hobart	16-15-4
6-15	Morton	15-17
15-16-9	Crown Point	10-18-15
9-12	Munster	15-15
15-16	Clark	9-14
Griffith Invite 2nd place		
13-6	Lake Central	15-15
11-12	Bishop Noll	15-15
4-16-9	Gavit	15-14-15
5-12	Valparaiso	15-15
15-15	Hammond	12-9
15-12-15	Gary West Side	11-15-8
15-5-15	Whiting	10-15-1
15-10-15	Clark (Sectionals)	10-15-10
12-13	Andean (Sectionals)	15-15



Photo by Anne Hecht

Kicking back

Following down sophomore Veronica Solis, Breanne Steagall, and Kathleen Vanek enjoy a break from their busy volleyball schedule at Lake Central. The girls were tired after their first match of the season. It was a tough match, but the girls were able to win. They were all smiling and looking towards the camera.

The Numbers Add Up

The Lady Panthers won more than half of their home games. **62%**

Most of the Lady Panthers serves were inbounds. **83%**

The Lady Panthers had a very high accuracy in setting. **97%**

The Panthers increased their numbers from last year by more than half. **63%**

Covering New Ground

A 5'11" girl on the volleyball team? Unheard of in Griffith. But this year there were two, senior **Erica Head** and sophomore **Kathleen Vanek**.

With only three returning varsity players, the team achieved their ultimate goal, beating Merrillville. Coach **Michelle Castillo** said team chemistry made this year different.

"What's special about this year is the girls," Castillo said. "We played better as a team than last year."

Although there was good team unity, junior **Nichole Popovich** said the team needed to work on their desire to succeed.

"The most difficult thing was losing when we definitely should have won," Popovich said. "We needed to have more desire to win."

Although the team wasn't undefeated, Castillo was proud of their accomplishments. "Not many teams can say they beat Merrillville," Castillo said.

So, with new height and new talent, the team came together to improve their previous record of 10-20 by finishing 15-17.

-Susan Huss

Photo by Tracy Egan



Varsity

Front row: Anne Klebora, Lindsay Vrand, Tereen Vochev, Tasha Freeman, Allison Barba
 Second row: Julie Newman, Michelle Gaboran, Tammy Hest, Laryll Miles, Allison Gatin,
 Samantha Quintony, Back row: Vicki Hegre, Coach, Melissa Hahn, Melissa Petersen,
 Laura Noney, Lisa Smith, Melissa Sadash, Jeanne Sawyer, Ray Rompich, Coach



Junior Varsity

Front row: Crystal Wicks, Blake Balde, Emily Jennings, Heather Szosnia, Second
 row: Parker Albright, Angela Parnot, Sarah Hanley, Kristyn Lafayette, Brittany
 Parent, Back row: Vicki Hegre, Coach, Holly Williams, Tery Davis, Melanie Johnson,
 Veronica Jacobs, Jessica Pavlich, Jazmine Sims, Ricardo Gonzalez (Coach)

The Numbers Add Up

The number of
20 goals the girls
 scored in
 the season.

The number of
52 total goals
 scored by
 the team.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Energizing goodies

Waiting in line for some snacks, junior Diana Ballas and freshman Rachel Albright try to decide on what they want. Snacks were provided by the parents for the girls to eat during and after the game.

Plowing her over

Plowing through her opponent's attempt to steal the ball, junior Tammy Hest tries to move it up the field in a game at home. The girls averaged 2.88 goals per game and only allowed an average of 1.11 goals.



Photo by Tony Pope



An emotional ending

After losing to Highland 3-0 on Wed. Jan. 26, Melissa Petersen expressed her emotions. "It was a hard game for the girls to lose because of the rivalry between the two teams."

A balancing act

Grounding the knowledge of the games, junior Colleen Vechey, senior Melissa Hart, sophomore Michelle Gaddini and freshman Alison Banta watch the game. "Vechey said,



Photo by Tony Papa

Junior Mints

Most teams are led by a few seniors who have been on the team longer than anyone else and can take charge. But for the girls' soccer team, this was difficult because there were no seniors and eleven juniors. Though this may have seemed like a setback at the beginning, it became a strong point because of their ability to work together and their experience with each other in the past.

"We were on Club together since grade school," said junior **Melissa Hart**. "We know each other and how everyone plays. We work together because we're friends and want to help each other."

The girls' long history together also helped them get used to how they play. They knew what their teammates were doing and where they were going.

"It helped us talk to each other," said junior **Amie Kielbasa**. "We already knew what the other person was going to do with the ball."

With no seniors, the juniors had to take charge and lead the team.

"It was hard," said Hart. "We needed some juniors to step up and take the place of the seniors, considering there were four last year."

As their record showed, the juniors used their compatibility and previous experience to pull together and lead the team in a successful season.

-Jessica Everhart

Scoreboard

Us		Them
	Soccer O'Rama	
4	Bishop Noll	1
5	Morton	0
0	Highland	1
1	Chesterton	0
12	Michigan City	1
15	Lowell	0
0	Valparaiso	0
1	Merrillville	0
2	Highland	0
0	Crown Point	2
1	Lake Central	3
3	Munster	4
3	Laporte	0
2	Portage	2
1	Andean	4
0	Hobart	0
2	Sectionals	1
0	Sectionals	2

Spitting for the tradition

For a school that prides itself on Christopher Troska, baseball is the only sport that is truly a tradition. Troska, a senior, is the only player in the school's history to have been named to the All-American team. He is also the only player to have been named to the All-American team.



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Peek-a-boo

For a school that prides itself on Christopher Troska, baseball is the only sport that is truly a tradition. Troska, a senior, is the only player in the school's history to have been named to the All-American team. He is also the only player to have been named to the All-American team.

Defending his territory

For a school that prides itself on Christopher Troska, baseball is the only sport that is truly a tradition. Troska, a senior, is the only player in the school's history to have been named to the All-American team. He is also the only player to have been named to the All-American team.



Junior Varsity

Front row: Jason H. Jones, Matt Nowlin, Anthony Estay, Gregory Brown, Kenneth Usher, Steven Winkler, and William Second row: The Varsity, Steven H. Jones, The Varsity, Paul W. Jones, Sean Jones, Anthony Estay, and Matt Nowlin. Back Row: Matthew Jones, Steven H. Jones, Timothy Jones, Steven H. Jones, and Paul W. Jones.



Varsity

Front Row: Jason H. Jones, Matt Nowlin, Anthony Estay, Gregory Brown, Kenneth Usher, Steven Winkler, and William Second row: The Varsity, Steven H. Jones, The Varsity, Paul W. Jones, Sean Jones, Anthony Estay, and Matt Nowlin. Back Row: Matthew Jones, Steven H. Jones, Timothy Jones, Steven H. Jones, and Paul W. Jones.



Scoreboard

Us	Them	
11	Lowell	0
2	Chesterton	0
6	Morton	0
2	Hobart	1
1	Munster	2
4	Crown Point	0
2	Bishop Noll	1
4	Merrillville	1
9	Clark	0
3	Portage	1
2	Gavit	0
3	Lake Central	1
3	Andrean	1
5	Hammond High	2
3	Highland	1
1	Valparaiso	7
	Sectionals	
	First Round	
	Bye	
4	Morton	1
1	Highland	0
	Regionals	
0	Bishop Noll	1



Photo by Annie Hecht

Flashing his pride

Shripping off his jersey, senior Jeremy Buzza flashes pride as he helps the team return to the crowd. "We got revenge on Highland from last year and that was our goal, to win 5-0," said Buzza.

The Numbers Add Up

This is how many games
the team won.

76%

This is how many games
the team lost on
their home field.

1

Playing the Role

Just about every soccer player could agree that the biggest challenge was to beat Highland for a sectional victory, but not junior **Colin Banta**.

"The hardest game for the junior varsity team was Lake Central. Even though we won, their overall skill was better than ours, but when it came down to it, we wanted it more," said Banta.

It doesn't only take skill to be successful. It takes motivation, leadership, and much more.

This year was this first year David Lopez took part in playing leading roles on both the soccer and football team.

"David Lopez had the most goals, and we need goals to win. He pulled through when we needed him," said Banta.

Besides independence, teammates depend on other members to get them where they want to go.

"I look up to Craig Sims because he controls the mid-field and I know that it is a hard position," said senior **Ryan Towasnicki**.

Despite their early end, the team closed the season with pride.

"We had a good year but we should have never ended on Bishop Noll because we were a lot better of a team," said senior **Chad Lukas**.

Dedication was the team's main focal point to bring in a victorious season.

-Sara Grudzien



Scoreboard

Us		Them
28	La Porte	6
6	Hobart	3
15	Andrean	14
7	Lake Central	34
10	Munster	18
42	Lowell	21
34	E.C. Central	0
7	Highland	14
21	Hammond High	10
49	Morton	14
21	Hammond High	0
35	Highland	0
0	Plymouth	34



A moment of silence

Seconds before the loss to Minnesota, owner Jason Angel takes a moment to realize what was happening. This was the annual "Bone Game" in which the team played for the bone season in a local Fair. Fairies attend. The Panthers were deemed the prize later in the season in a game against Highland the first week of September.



Bringing him down

After leading the opposing teams in a series, senior **Timothy Duke** (number 11) threw a 100-yard pass during the game and was out for the rest of the season.

Taking a breather

Born out for a breather, senior Ryan Sarver waits his offense as he waits for his time on the field. Sarver has been on the football team since the seventh grade.





One last run

In the opening game, a 20-year-old senior, **Dave Lopez**, runs a 40-yard dash. **Timothy Duke** is on the sidelines for a touchdown. This was the last game after the loss to Plymouth.

Pulling his leg

During a break up, however, after deliberating on, somehow, Tyler Radtke pushes forward for a first kiss. First, was such before dropping off the airplane the night of.



The Numbers Add Up

But the real test of the program will come when the program is put to the test.

9. **Half your time** should be spent in practice on an average day during the summer.

Coming off of a state championship with everyone plotting against them could have destroyed the football team. But instead they took all the pressure and turned it around into a successful season.

Senior **Patrick Fuentes** felt that the intensity was positive for the team.

"It felt good because everyone was looking at us and wanted to beat us," Fuentes said. "We were everyone's target."

Being a target also put the team on the spot. They had to work harder

Enemies of the State

harder practices and longer day camp," Falk said. "We were expected to do well, even from all the fans."

Though the team ended a few games short of state, they still finished the season with a record of 9-4. Defensive coach **Dan McCoy** believed that despite the loss, the Panthers accomplished many goals.

"Just because we didn't win state doesn't mean it was an unsuccessful season," McCoy said. "They are all a great bunch of guys. They played hard all year and I'm proud of them." - Jessica Everhart/ Kevin Suba

Leading the team

Rebounding his former U.S. swimmer, Eric Laczi presides to play his opponent at Highland. Laczi served as team captain this year. "I tried to lead the team, cause I was the only senior," Laczi said.

Having a blast

Concentration on his swing, junior Michael Reyna's opponent tumbles. "This was my first year in the team, where he played pretty damn good. The season went by really fast," Reyna said, "but I still had a lot of fun."

Scoreboard

Us	Them
2 Lowell	3
4 Hobart	1
5 Clark	0
1 Andrean	4
2 Lake Central	3
3 Bishop Noll	2
4 Morton	1
Lake Station Inv, 1st	
3 River Forest	2
0 Munster	5
0 Portage	5
2 Calumet	3
Merrillville Inv, 6th	
2 Highland	3
LAC Tourney, 5th	
0 Sectionals	5



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Running for it

Ex-Olympian Paul Dalach stretches to return the ball at the LAC tourney. "It was about the crosscourt line, but perfect," Dalach said. "We were really high because it was fun even when I lost."

Making the save

Using the ball right before it goes out of play, junior John Hanson at tennis tournament. "The season was fun, I think, but we didn't play up to our potential."



Smashing Baby, Smashing

The boys' tennis team continually rose above expectations this season almost everytime they walked onto the court. They especially exceeded those expectations when three players, senior **Eric Laczi**, and juniors **John Hanson** and **Matthew Sherry**, were named to the All-Conference team.

"It's a great honor," Sherry said. "John, Eric and I are proud to represent GHS with an honor like this."

Hanson said they still could have done better than they did.

"We lost to Crown Point in first round of sectionals, and we shouldn't have," Hanson said. "We could've done better but we didn't take practice seriously."

The team faced problems such as inexperience and only having seven players.

"We were hurt by having such a small team," Laczi said. "We had no depth in our lineup to play the better teams."

As the season went along, the team surpassed their hopes which were to be competitive and enjoy themselves.

"Everyone continued to improve throughout the season," Sherry said. "We did it through hard work and the love of the game."

-Amanda Grcevich

The Numbers Add Up

The tennis team had this
3 many fewer players
than last year.

This is how many more
17% games they won than
the previous season.



Front Row: John Hanson, Eric Laczi, Matthew Sherry, John Hanson. Back Row: John Hanson, Eric Laczi, Matthew Sherry, John Hanson. Not Pictured: Matthew Sherry.

Photo by Tom Page

Photo by Tom Page

All the fans in the Stands

What is a good game without the fans? Chances are, it's not too exciting. Without the support of fans, the players may not always be as motivated to perform to the best of their ability.

"The best part of being a fan is the fact that you get to support your team," said sophomore **Scott Negrete**. "It also provides the team with some moral support."

As well as cheering on your team, going to a sporting event also gave people a chance to hang out with freinds.

"I go to games to support my tennis team," said senior **Meagan Clarke**. "It also gives me a chance to socialize with the people that go."

To many athletes fans were important. Fans motivated, encouraged and offered support to the athletes.

"Fans are important because they compel you to give it all you have," said senior **Joshua Martin** who was a member of the boys' swim team. "They're your fans and they are depending on you to win." -Kevin Suba and Eric Salczynski



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Show me your spirit

Showing from the stands, a large group of students cheered on the basketball team. The boys' basketball team played a game in the gymnasium.

Getting pumped

Getting pumped up, senior Christopher Troeska, along with seniors Kyle Konopasek and Colin Banta try to motivate the girls' basketball team to win the game.

Photo by Tony Papa





Leader of the pack

Watkins' running back, coach Paul Dudley supports the team during each Friday homecoming week. The team just won the state football championship.

Having a blast

It's a good time for Laura Worley, who's been a cheerleader for the school since she was in the eighth grade. She says she's having a blast.



Photo by Tony Papa

Ready to play

Having a little fun, senior Jason O'Donnell, who's been a good quarterback since he was in the eighth grade, is ready to play. He's been a good quarterback since he was in the eighth grade.



Photo by Tony Papa

Getting defensive

In their faces, an angry Nicholas Jovanovich, head basketball coach, Tom Wells yells at him for having foul, and then went on to take third place in the high school tournament.

"Are you blind?"

Among a "basketball" in 11 American, head football coach Russ Radke, he came up with the "Are you blind?" question, and then took first place in the tournament.



Photo by Tony Papa

The Numbers Add Up

19%

Of the coaches are female.

Larry Parker holds the record for the most years as a coach.

29



Photo by Tony Papa

Beyond the call of duty

After being a coach for the past 10 years, Julian Gajewski is hoped off the field by his sister, Jany, as she looks on. Viki Negrete, who looks on, Negrete volunteered her coaching time for the school.

On the sidelines

Surprising encouragement to a wrestler, head coach Travis Wells, and assistant coaches Mark Hidalgo and John Hanson instruct him to go "freestyle" on the next period. Late Station defeated Griffin at the meet.



Photo by Tony Papa





One of the keys to any team is the authority figure, also called the coach. Some may think of the coach as a bad guy, but others think of him or her as person for their scrapbook.

Coaches are the type of people who can give memories that will last a lifetime, memories that can give a good laugh in the future. Sophomore **Elliott Miller** reflected on a funny moment with JV soccer coach **Ron Knestrick Jr.**

"In practice Jared Pierson got mad at coach," said Miller. "So they started wrestling and Jared threw coach Ron down to the ground."

Not all memories of a coach were funny. Some memories were about an outstanding move on the coach's behalf, according to head defensive coach **Dan McCoy**.

"One of my good memories of coach Radtke is when he out coached Carris at Andean," said McCoy. "Andean called a timeout and everyone was off the field but Radtke. He waited to see how Andean set up and then called a timeout."

Leader of the Pack

coach **Tim Powers** remembered last year's win at the sectional championship game.

"We were down ten going into the fourth quarter," said Powers. "The kids rallied back to win, they worked the hardest out of all the teams in the sectional. They deserved to win."

Good or bad, the coach had a huge impact on an athlete's career. They could make the difference between an ordinary moment and a memory that will last a lifetime.

-Kevin Suba and Jessica Everhart

For some coaches, winning the big games was where the memories were made. Varsity girls' basketball



Photo by Tony Papa

Making plans

Talking to his players, Freshman boys' basketball coach **Kevin Sudac** gives freshman **Ryan Blythe** and **Christopher Quintero** the game plan during the game.



Photo by Jeremy E. Martin

Whistle while you coach

Whistling at a swimmer, Freshman swimming coach **Rob Gass** motivates him to go "Jesse James" high prior to the start of the relay. The swimmer can hear under water.

Scoreboard

Us	Them
62	River Forest 42
56	Hammond High 34
50	Whiting 22
52	Merrillville 43
31	Highland 63
60	Wheeler 44
51	Lake Station 10
55	Andean 68
55	Western 57
70	Elkhart Central 56
63	S.B. Riley 56
53	Calumet 23
70	Clark 41
65	Gary Roosevelt 63
45	Lowell 65
42	Morton 41
62	Hebron 35
39	Munster 50
68	Bishop Noll 55
35	Chesterton 50
62	Gavit 55
	Sectionals
53	Gavit 52
58	Bishop Noll 43
40	Andean 44

Showing team spirit

Elkhart Central's prebent, junior Melissa Peterson cheers for team on the court. Panthers had three seniors, and had no returning freshmen.

Somebody help me!

Accompanying a play, junior Sarah Bacan (25) was hit and fouled. American defenders who fouled her will be in trouble. Bacan was an All-Conference First Team pick.

Photo by Tony Papa

Photo by Tony Papa

Hoop Dreams

"My dad got me started in basketball and coached me through high school," Zukanovich said. "Emily Coddington, Amber Farr, and a few other girls started playing with the boys' teams in fourth grade. We were the only girls."

Senior La'Teisha Adams got started when she was only about 8 or 9.

"Coach White asked me if I would be interested in trying out for basketball," Adams said. "I was in third grade. I didn't know anything about it because I'd never played before."

Many players have basketball hoops in their driveways or alleys. This is where junior Amber Farr first took up the game.

"We had a hoop out front," Farr said, "and my grandpa and I played every day outside. That was the first thing that got me into basketball. I loved it."

Junior Sarah Bacan got herself into the sport at a young age as well.

"I decided on my own to play in fifth grade and I'm glad I did," Bacan said. "I like everything about this sport; the roughness, the feeling when you make a winning shot, everything."

-Jessica Everhart

For some, it's an older brother or sister. For others, it's a great player. But for junior Dana Zukanovich, it was her dad.

Please go in!

Making a quick shot, senior Laura Zagrocki jumps above Gavit opponents during the first Sectional game at Calumet. The Panthers beat the Gladiators in overtime, which advanced them to the second game the following night.



Varsity

Front row: Jeremy Blanton, Luke Ingram, James Hays, Second row: Meesaiani (mgr.), Matthew Thon, Jim Tepstra, Tom Wago, Matthew Lira, Colton Veechey (mgr.), Back row: Jimmy Hett (mgr.), Milan Laviolette (mgr.), Matthew Sherry, Nicholas Jovanovich, Tom Wells (coach), Matthew Bane, Marko Petrovic, Richard Kretz (coach), John Hochstetler (coach).



Junior Varsity

Front row: Derek Taylor, Ethan Adams, Michael Feltz, Andrew Pitesta, Shawn Suka, Back row: Matthew Thon, Jeremiah George, Jared Person, Richard Kretz (coach), Matt Adams, Michael Reyna, Allen Johnson

The basketball team had both tough and thrilling times throughout their season. Amidst the difficulties the team was faced with, there were still exciting moments.

"We were playing at Andean, and we were on TV and on the radio. We had the ball with three minutes to go and we were down by five," said head varsity basketball coach **Tom Wells**. "The crowd was as loud as I've ever heard them. It was a pretty exciting game to play in."

Although the team lost a couple of players due to injuries and grades, they were still able to have a successful year.

"The biggest accomplishment this year," said junior **Matthew Sherry**, "was being able to stay focused as a team through all of the adversities."

In addition to the big "basketball" moments, the team was also able to have fun in their own way. Despite their loss during sectionals they became closer and pulled through to still have a successful season.

-Kevin Suba and Candice Peters

Rising to the Occasion

Shooting the ball

Giving a little fact, Junior **Matthew Thon** drives to the hole and tries for two points. Thon played varsity and JV basketball this year, along with Cross Country and golf.

Photo by Tom Page



The Numbers Add Up

This is the most points the team scored in a single game.

85

The basketball team averaged an average of 64.9 points per game.

64.9



Photo by Tony Papa

Soaring to the hoop

Leading scorer Junior Nicholas Jovanovich looks to go in and score the game-winning shot. Jovanovich was a returning player, and was able to contribute offensively to the team.

Making the moves

Getting the ball to the basket, and back, is what teammate Nick Troksa does best. Troksa is a returning player, and was able to contribute offensively to the team.



Photo by Tony Papa

Scoreboard

Us		Them
84	Hebron	66
53	Highland	50
76	Lake Station	53
72	Hanover Central	59
57	Andean	69
70	North Newton	48
83	Calumet	57
70	Wheeler	53
85	Lowell	60
66	Morton	57
79	Hobart	58
75	Munster	81
52	Clark	49
50	Bishop Noll	38
58	Crown Point	93
56	Gavit	47
57	Hammond High	63
48	Whiting	44
62	Sectionals	
	Andean	76



Photo by Tony Papa

Piling on the floor

United as a team, the players in a huddle to jump themselves up before the game. A few seconds prior, the cheerleaders and Panthers had formed a runway for their big entrance.

Flying through the air

Front and center, senior Luke Person is making a move on the hoop. Person has been playing basketball for many years.



Photo by Tony Papa

Taking to a new training regime, **Mark Gervot** from **New York** says, "The wrestling led to a great tablet to lose their weight. Along with strength training and conditioning."



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Struggling to get into wrestling, sophomore **Kenny Bellamy** wrestles against an East Chicago wrestler, Maxzudo. The team consists of 33 members.

knocking his opponent down, senior Eric Bellamy attempts to flip him over onto his back. This was Bellamy's first year lettering.

After coming in as the late-season wrestler (No. 10), sophomore **Mano Ruff** applies a headlock to pull opponent's shoulders towards the mat. He was the first homebust of the season for the Panthers.



Photo by Tony Papa



Front row: Joe Blythe, Jr., Jimmy Dumas, Robert Moore, John Ashely, Dave Schuler, Larry Sanford, Jimmy Berry, Bob Post, Anthony Jackson, George Second row: Bruce Johnson, John Swartz, Ray Boush, Anthony Kowalski, Joe Alexander, Anthony Mark Dwyer, Jerome L. Langsdorf, Michael J. Jones, Donald Back row: Dave Ware, Susan, Tom Holgado (sest. coach), Robert Crawford, Jesse Alexander, Craig Wilson, Jeffery Stone, William Baird, Michael J. Justin Corrie, John Larson, John Gartin, Joe Rastbe (sest. coach), John Larson, Kristian



Scoreboard

Us	Them	
0	Valparaiso	78
15	Gavit	63
12	Elkhart Memorial	72
0	Chesterton	74
57	Brebeuf (Indy)	15
0	Goshen	75
22	Bishop Noll	48
0	Bellmont	81
0	Main West	78
6	East Chicago Central	70
24	Lake Station	57
12	Highland	61
40	Hammond High	28
12	Chesterton	57
27	Andean	57
3	Portage	78
3	Lowell	72
41	S.B. Riley	32
33	Lake Station	51
42	Hammond High	42
59	Lew Wallace	12
3	Lowell	70
6	Munster	66
30	Andean	48
42	Kankakee Valley	36
45	Boone Grove	33
0	Lowell	78
36	Morton	40
16	Calumet	63
36	Morton	36
35	Lake Station	48
15	Highland	64
30	Gavit	53



Photo by Tony Papa

Work that body

Wrestler and coach captain, **Uncle John Hanson** works. Although a conditioning specialist, Hanson qualified for nationals in the 135-pound weight class.

The human pretzel

Struggling with headgear, **Paul** **Douglas Pondo** wrestles. Pondo, a senior, is a former state champion, a former All-American wrestler, and the only Indian, from the old Indian, to be a national.



Photo by Tony Papa

The Numbers Add Up

This is the biggest the
47 Panthers won by in
a single meet.

This is the number
13 of first-year
wrestlers.

Putting on the Moves

With only one returning senior and only a few juniors, the young, inexperienced wrestling team had to take a lot of time out of conditioning and practice to teach new things. But sophomore **Mark Govert** said that the coaches did a good job of keeping practices moving.

"We were all basically learning together," Govert said, "except that there was so much we needed to learn."

Senior captain **Jeffrey Vessell**, who advanced to semi-state, said that injuries also hurt the team.

"Many key people were out this season with injuries," Vessell said. "I don't know if we wrestled with a full team all season."

Though the team had some difficulties filling all the weight classes because of their small turnout, they did come together and supported each other on and off the mats.

"After Christmas, we went bowling and had a spaghetti party as a team," Govert said.

Sometimes at meets, nerves could get the best of new wrestlers. But the team was rarely nervous, instead turning their "butterflies" into energy and enthusiasm.

"The rookies brought a lot of excitement to the meets," sophomore **Justin Grimmer** said.

Though their record wasn't as good as they had hoped it would be, there were many individual records and goals reached.

-Jessica Everhart



Photo by Tony Papa

Kick, kick, kick

Along the way a close friend, fellow swimmer Lacey Hall practiced her kicking technique. Hall was a member of both the record-breaking 200 and 400 freestyle relays.

Laid back

Improving her technique, sophomore Veronica Solis swims two strokes during practice. Solis is quite devoted to the style of swimming named her the nickname of "the stroke."



Front row: Alesia Fox, Janelle Fox, Janyla Fox, Jamin Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox. Second row: Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox. Third row: Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox. Back row: Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox, Jami Fox.

Giving it her all

Hannah Zemke, whose freestyle is being a mom. She broke the 400 freestyle record with a time of 4:41.00.

Breathing hard

Endegroom practices her freestyle. Endegroom was one of IWW team captain and was the youngest captain of Folsom's swimming career.





Photo by Eddie Covarrubias

Almost there

Swimming down the line, senior Melissa Steapleton practices the breaststroke. Steapleton was the only senior on the team and was also a team captain.

The Numbers Add Up

The girls set this many new records throughout the season.

This is the number of seniors that were on the team for four straight years.

Scoreboard

Us		Them
72	Lowell	114
96	Gavit	90
81	Highland	105
85	Hobart	101
83	Munster	103
84	Rensselaer	101
	Griffith Invite- 2 nd	
66	Merrillville	105
	Lake Central Invite- 3 rd	
75.5	Crown Point	108.5
90	Hammond High	3
81	Morton	27
44	Lake Central	141
109	Kankakee Valley	77
135	Bishop Noll	34
	LAC- 3 rd	
	Frosh/Soph LAC- 5 th	
	Sectionals- 4 th	

A stroke of Luck

With only 14 swimmers on their team, the girls' swim team had to work even harder to reach their goals. For many, the goal was to beat Gavit.

"Gavit is our biggest rival," said freshman **Shannon Churitch**. "We wanted to prove that we were better than them."

While the girls took fourth to Gavit at Sectionals, they managed to get third at the Lake Conference meet. Some team members thought that their success was due to the strong camaraderie of the team.

"The best thing about the season was that we all got along," said junior **Mary Belcher**. "We grew closer not only as teammates, but as friends as well."

Even though the numbers weren't there, the girls had a successful season, breaking four school records along the way.

-Josh Martin

Following his injury, senior Daniel Santarelli took to jumping as high as he can. Santarelli was the only senior diver for the team and also carried the title of captain.

During a press conference, Josh Martin announced his signing, Rob Gass. Gass moved to the Best Western. At his press award and was the first to call Gass to receive the trophy.



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Brenda Michalak



Front row: Johnnie Mackay, John Galt, George Mackay, and Eric. Second row: George Mackay, Johnnie Mackay, John Galt, George Mackay, and Eric. Third row: Johnnie Mackay, John Galt, George Mackay, and Eric. Back row: Johnnie Mackay, John Galt, George Mackay, and Eric.



Photo by Tony Papa

Twining's problem, Junior Eric Scott tried to get an advantage over his competitors. Many swimmers felt that the start of the race was important because it easier to move through the water.

Figure 10.10. After the tsunami, the sand swam team used nearly as much sand to make 100 m³ of concrete as the Navy swam with only 10 m³ of sand. But the wood left from sealing the ship was very few in number and was not used for the concrete.



Scoreboard

Us		Them
88	Highland	95
99	Hobart	87
	Munster Relays- 6 th	
101	Rensselaer	82
102	Merrillville	84
	Lake Central Invite- 2 nd	
115	Calumet	71
80	Crown Point	106
91	Hammond High	9
74	Morton	27
69	Munster	116
64	Portage	122
50	Lake Central	136
121	Kankakee Valley	60
116	Lowell	53
	LAC- 2 nd	
	Frosh/Soph LAC- 5 th	
	Sectionals- 3 rd	
	IHSAA State- 29 th	



Photo by Gina Menchaca

Going the distance

Coming up the Senior list, David Everett Mull practices his freestyle. Mull had to rest at the beginning of the season due to a knee injury.

The Numbers Add Up

The boys broke this many
5 records at their Sectional swim meet.

This much of the team
17% was made up of seniors.

Into the Blue Again

Second Team All Conference. Not a title that the boys' swim team has ever earned in this decade. Until now.

The boys overcame Highland at the Lake Conference meet in order to take second place. Many of the swimmers felt that this was the most outstanding achievement of the season.

"I was very pleased when we beat Highland at Conference," said senior **David Schaffenger**. "We haven't beat Highland at Conference or even a meet in quite a few years."

Several boys attributed the team's success to the outstanding effort that the team put forward at Conference.

"We had some excellent swims at Conference," said sophomore **Jason Kane**. "Our second-string relays were a big part of our victory."

While the team had hoped for a second place Sectional finish, they fell short of their goal. Numerous swimmers felt that the team still swam well.

"We broke many records during Sectionals and put up an excellent fight," said Kane. "Highland just got us in the end."

Even though the season had its ups and downs, some of the athletes felt that it was the best it could be.

"I don't think we could have swam any better or with any more intensity than we did," said Schaffenger. "If we had it all to do again, I don't think we'd change a thing."

-Josh Martin



Photo by Gina Menchaca

Shaking it

Performing a high-kick routine, senior Terrille Grasha, sophomore Ashley Wilson and senior Amanda Kasper get into the cheer. "Cheering for basketball is so much better than football because we get to do four cheers," Wilson said.

At the top

Providing some entertainment, the Varsity cheerleaders are on a stunt at a basketball game. The cheerleaders cheered at 27 basketball games and in the fall they also cheered at twenty football games.



Photo by Tony Papa

The Numbers Add Up

This was the first year the cheerleaders stayed at Griffith for summer camp.

This is the number of seniors that have cheered together on the same squad for the past five years.



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Jumping for a win

Shouting out a winning cheer, the Varsity cheerleaders led a crowd during the last home basketball game. "This was my first year coaching and I really enjoyed it," Luann Morgan, cheerleading sponsor.

The last game

During the game, cheerleader Andrea Reed shares a few "passover" thoughts on her last game. "It was also sad because it was the senior's last time cheering at a football game," Reed said.



Photo by Tony Papa

Not just Cheering

Cheerleading may appear so easy that anyone could do it. However there is more to cheerleading than yelling really loud at games.

Cheerleaders have to constantly work hard at perfecting difficult stunts and making up new cheers.

They also provide a lot of support to the team by making signs, decorating lockers and cheering at home and away games.

One of the hardest things about cheerleading was having to cheer in front of big crowds, according to sophomore **Michelle Prewitt**.

"I was pretty scared my first couple of times cheering" Prewitt said, "but we have to do it so much that you get used to it."

Teaching at little girls camp was the best thing about cheerleading, according to sophomore **Christy Bumbales**.

"It was really fun to teach all the little kids dances, and the camp that we went to was also really fun because we learned new cheers and dances," she said.

The cheerleaders did their best to provide the games with new entertainment and spread school spirit.

-Kellie Sternberg



Front Row: Jennille Grasha, Jennifer Vanoni, Amanda Kasper, Joan Doppler, Andrea Peck Back Row: Lara Melton, Michelle Prewitt, Laniace Peters, Ashley Wilson, Kara Kmins, Jana Balas, Christy Bumbales



Photo by Tony Papa

Yelling for it

Cheering for a victory, senior Joan Doppler leads the cheer as sophomore Christy Bumbales follows. The cheerleaders practiced twice a week and sometimes more to perfect their cheers and dances.

Trapped

Swimming by the beach clubbers, Junior Matthew Sherry tries to make his way through to the pool. Sherry played on the varsity basketball team for the last two years, and on the tennis team since the freshman year.

One... Two... Three...

Junior David Colby manages to throw the shot put during practice. Colby manages to pull out a first place win at the Conference meet, even at his training weight. Colby will go along with a muscle under his shoulder blade earlier in the season.



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Dribbling away

Attempting a lay-up, senior Laura Zagrocki tries to get around a tall Grant defender. Zagrocki received the Athletic Hall of Fame award which was chosen by an executive committee of teachers at Poudre Night.



Photo by Tony Papa

The Awards Add Up

1st Team All Conference

Sarah Bacon (volleyball, basketball)	Ryan Hill (football)	Luke Pierson (football)
Paul Blumkin (golf)	Christopher Hill (football, baseball)	Matthew Sherry (tennis, basketball)
Jeremy Buzza (soccer)	Joseph Homoky (soccer)	Craig Sims (soccer)
Amber Farr (basketball)	Eric Laezi (tennis)	Kevin Sulu (baseball)
Julianne Gajewski (soccer)	David Lopez (football, soccer)	Jim Terpstra (basketball, baseball)
Michelle Gaddini (soccer)	Erick Marisczak (football)	Larry Turner (football)
John Hanson (tennis)	Erik Negrete (football)	Lindsay Vrane (soccer)
		Laura Zagrocki (softball)

Other special awards

Male Athlete of the Year: Jim Terpstra (basketball, baseball)	Dave Lopez (football, soccer, track)
Female Athlete of the Year: Laura Zagrocki (softball, cross-country, basketball)	
Susan L. Anderson Memorial Award for Courage: Scott Gierman (cross-country, track)	Melissa Scaletton (swimming)



Photo by Tony Papa

Booting the ball

Kicking the ball, senior David Lopez takes a hard hit right at the first goal. The play was pivotal in the winning 14-10 game. Lopez was the regular season MVP, and was the only LHS athlete to play two sports simultaneously, and received honors in both sports.

Pumping up Their minds

"MVP" is pretty self-explanatory- the strongest member on the team. And the player who improves the most gets the "Most Improved" award. But what constitutes getting the "Best Mental Attitude" award?

Freshman swimmer **Lacey Hall** thought that her positive attitude helped her get this award.

"I tried not to show that I was discouraged," Hall said, "even when things weren't going good for me."

Junior **Michael Cservenak** "encouraged" his cross country team throughout the season, which earned him the award.

"I always reminded the team that we were not in last place," Cservenak said.

Junior **Kathryn LaFayette** also received this award by motivating her soccer team.

"I tried to keep the team in good spirits throughout the season, even during the drills and games in practice," LaFayette said.

Though the Best Mental Attitude award may be overlooked as an insignificant honor, those who do receive it will remember it for a lifetime.

-Jessica Everhart



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

And here comes the pitch

Just about ready to release the ball, senior **Jim Terstrap** is hesitating a game against Hammond High. Terstrap received numerous awards in basketball and baseball throughout his high school career.

Go for the goal

Moving the ball down the field, junior **Lindsay Vrane** is in the goal with an opponent at her side. Vrane had been an active member in the soccer team since her freshman year, and had participated in water polo since elementary school.

Huddle it up

Sometimes they were used to fire up the team. Other times, it was to settle the team down. So what did these "pow-wows" mean for athletes?

Sophomore **Lisa Carroll** said that they helped out her soccer team because they either talk about the good things they did, or the things they need to improve on.

"They help us because they keep us focused on the game," Carroll said, "and help us improve for the next half of our game."

Sometimes the team was not getting enough support from the crowd. For junior **Demetrios Georgis**, they really got him fired up and ready to play.

"They can be very encouraging during a game, especially if you are losing," Georgis said. "If the crowd is quiet, it's a lot harder to get pumped up."

Sophomore **Julie Rutledge** initiated some "one on one" pow-wows during softball games. She would walk over to the pitcher's mound and give the pitcher some encouragement.

"When the pitcher gets down because the umpire isn't calling anything, I go talk to her to reassure her that she's doing fine," Rutledge said. "It keeps her head in the game and helps her to keep focused. It also gives her a break to calm down."

At times, teams got together in a huddle just to have some fun. For instance, the cross country team, usually led by juniors **Joshua Banning** and **Jason Tomesi**, didn't even talk about the meet in these conferences.

"We would clap out the rhythm to the '70s classic funk song, 'Carwash,'" senior **Scott Gierman** said. "It made the meets more fun."

By coming together and either talking about what needed to be done or clapping out a song, the teams helped each other out and sometimes even turned a frustrating moment into an uplifting experience.

-Jessica Everhart and Eric Salczynski

Go, go get 'em...

Huddling up before the double header against Fenwick, juniors **Samantha Quintero** and **Nancy Robles**, and seniors **Laura Zagrocki** and **Maree Garbay** along with the rest of the team get ready to cheer. Before every game the team played, they would get together and do the traditional cheer, which started out "Go, go get 'em, get 'em, go, get 'em, go..."



The Numbers Add Up

The number of times the softball team huddled during defense when **100%** there was no one on base and an out was made.

This is the number of times the boys' swim team huddled up as **14** a team during the season before a meet.



Photo by Tony Page



Photo by Tony Papa

Study break

Keating with some homework at their feet, sophomore Angelina Alvarez and Breanne Steagall talk before their track meet. "My team is flat, pump me up when we get together," Steagall said. "They tell me that I'm better than my opponents."



Photo by Tony Papa

Making the save

Grabbing out some dirty pants, head basketball coach Tom Wells said about his players during a timeout. "We sometimes like to use them," Wells said. "We use them to make other defenses on offense." Wells said.

Let's go "O"

Before the game, Wells said, the freshmen basketball players said their own all-around behind heading in talent. "In between rings, the coach tells us what we need to do," Wells said. "Captain Nate Spitz said."



Photo by Tony Papa

No leaders to Follow

Many teams have certain leaders or captains that the other members can look up to and follow, but for the girls track team it was a different story. There were no captains chosen for the season. That wasn't the only thing that was different. **Eric Schreiber**, history, took over as the new coach with his wife, Adrienne, who helped coach the distance events.

This was sophomore **Angelina Alvarez**'s second year on track and she said the major difference was the new coaches.

"I really liked the coaches a lot," Alvarez said, "because they pushed us harder and expected a lot of dedication from us."

The team was really young because it was mainly made up of freshmen and sophomores. Sophomore **Melissa Gaddini** said that it's good the team is so young because if everyone works at it, the team will get a lot better.

"The bad part about having so few upperclassmen is the fact that nobody really leads the team at practices and that can cause some to slack off," Gaddini said.

-Kellie Sternberg



Photo by Matt Fliter



Photo by Matt Fliter

Stretching it

Helping her teammate, sophomore Lindsay Powers makes sure junior Lara Gonzalez stretches good before running. "The best moment in track was when my relay team won," Powers said.

She's going for speed...

Giving it a try, junior Kasheena Green waits at finishing the 100-meter dash. This was Green's first year in track.



Photo by Matt Fliter

Going for height

Jumping with ease, sophomore Mark Amos clears the bar. Amos jumped for Seaboard while not feeling well and still set a good 100.



Photo by Matt Filer



Photo by Matt Filer

Jumping for victory

Flying over the bar, senior Kent Elliot paved the way at the Highland sectional. Elliot was the only member of the track team to advance to regionals.

Gaining strength

Achieving his 100th victory in the 4x100 relay, senior William Torres leads a list. Torres was on the number one relay team with teammates Tyler Radtke, junior Shawn Medsker, and junior Joe Schultz.



Photo by Tony Papa

Working together

Keeping strong, sophomore Mark Forster gets ready to pass the baton off to his teammates. Each member of the 3000 meter relay had to run 750 meters of the race, which is two laps on the track.



Photo by Matt Filer

Going the Distance

Remember the distance runners? You know, the runners that were thought to be the weak spot on the team for the past couple of years? Well, if you have been paying attention or even kind of following their season, you would know that this is no longer the case. With most of the sprinters graduating, the distance runners have carried the team this year.

"We improved a lot from last year," said senior **Scott Gierman**. "The distance team is going to be tough in years to come."

All of their success didn't come without hard work and hours of running on the track and bike trail. They even had days when they swam in the pool to recuperate from a hard practice or meet the day before. This was a way for them to have a break without totally slacking off. Practices were five to six days a week, but that wasn't enough for a couple of runners.

"Scott Gierman and I go running every Sunday morning at the Dunes," said senior **Jeremy Bratton**.

All of their hard work and dedication paid off for the Panthers. Bratton was always a top finisher in the mile and two-mile races. Their 3200 meter relay, consisting of Gierman, sophomore **Victor Sendejas**, freshman **Adam Wilbert**, and sophomore **Mark Forster**, also had a couple of first place finishes.

"All the hard work didn't bother me," said sophomore **Matt Fliter**. "It made me feel good to know that I was doing something to improve myself and my running."

-Julie Rutledge

The Numbers Add Up

The track team only had
5 members on the team
this year.

The track team only had
1 member advance in
Regionals.



Front row: Scott Norriss, Matt Fliter, Mike Sendejas, Matthew Wilbert, Jeremy Bratton, Adam Wilbert, Victor Sendejas, Scott Gierman, Mark Forster. Second row: Scott Norriss, Matt Fliter, Mike Sendejas, Matthew Wilbert, Jeremy Bratton, Adam Wilbert, Victor Sendejas, Scott Gierman, Mark Forster. Third row: Scott Norriss, Matt Fliter, Mike Sendejas, Matthew Wilbert, Jeremy Bratton, Adam Wilbert, Victor Sendejas, Scott Gierman, Mark Forster. Fourth row: Scott Norriss, Matt Fliter, Mike Sendejas, Matthew Wilbert, Jeremy Bratton, Adam Wilbert, Victor Sendejas, Scott Gierman, Mark Forster. Back row: Scott Norriss, Matt Fliter, Mike Sendejas, Matthew Wilbert, Jeremy Bratton, Adam Wilbert, Victor Sendejas, Scott Gierman, Mark Forster.



Photo by Matt Fliter

Getting fixed up

Sitting on the trainer's table, junior **Bobby Laseiter** gets his leg looked at by the trainer. Laseiter hurt his hamstring while sprinting.

Under the tag

Sliding into third base, junior Samantha Adame tries to make it to the base in game at the Frank field. Adame received the Best Mental Attitude Award for softball at the spring sports banquet.



Photo by Tony Papa

Playin' it safe

Watching the play at first, junior Samantha Quintero takes a small walk off at second base at Memorial. Quintero played a little at first and third base, but mostly was a designated hitter.



Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Chug-a-lug

Gulping down water in between innings, junior Camie Giltmer takes a break during the first Sectional game at Memorial against Lowell. Giltmer was pulled up throughout the season to play outfield or pitch, run, and also dressed for Sectionals.



Varsity

Front row: Samantha Adame, Traci Dunbar, Emily Washington, Michele Cutler, Nicole Luby, Christy Bumbales. Second row: Samantha Quintero, Laura Lagroch, Camie Giltmer, Camie Tetros, Julie Rutledge, Nichole Popovich. Back row: Melissa Shammert (coach), Nancy Robes, Sarah Balzer, Michele Castillo (coach), Jessica Evertant, Marissa Garbay, Dave Lopez (coach).



Junior Varsity

Front row: Stephanie Kozzower, Veronica Long, Elizabeth Hiestema, Courtney Shobish. Second row: Jessica Navel, Nicole Popovich, Angela Terrato, Lindsay Beggs. Back row: Michele Castillo (coach), Sarah Palmer, Andrea Melendez, Melissa Shammert (coach), Seena Saldana, Amanda Mitchell, Dave Lopez (coach).

Strike one

Finishing her pitch, sophomore Sara Palmer releases the ball during a JV game against Fenwick. Palmer was the pitcher on the JV team, and was pulled up to dress varsity for Sectionals.



Scoreboard

Us		Them
8	Boone Grove	0
1	Crown Point	4
1	Highland	2
0	Fenwick	3
0	Fenwick	14
10	Lake Station	0
0	Hobart	2
3	Andean	5
10	Calumet	0
3	Lowell	4
3	Morton	1
0	Munster	0
5	Munster	9
5	Kankakee Valley	5
3	Hammond High	2
5	Clark	3
2	Bishop Noll	0
0	Lake Central	2
13	Gavit	2
0	Portage	1
0	Lake Central	1
3	Whiting	1
3	Shenandoah	1
7	Highland	2
0	Merrillville	4
0	Hanover Central	3
0	Valparaiso	1
3	South Bend Riley	2
3	South Bend Washington	4
	Merrillville	1
	Sectionals	
6	Lowell	0
2	Highland	1
2	Lake Central	7



Photo by Tony Papa

Three up, three down

Waiting for the infield to yell their part of the cheer, the three out leaders, junior Emily Coddington, senior Marisa Garbay, and sophomore Christy Bumbales talk in center field. Both Coddington and Garbay have played softball since their freshman years, but this was Bumbales' first year.

The Numbers Add Up

This was the total number of hits the team made.

175

This was the combined final ERA the two pitchers had at the end of the season.

.081

A run at the End

only lost by a couple of runs. The team was almost never blown out, and every game was a close battle.

"When we played teams like Merrillville, L.C. and Munster, we never quit, and no one gave up," junior **Samantha Quintero** said. "The only time we got beat by a lot of runs was at the beginning of the season, and we were still adjusting to the new coaches and team."

The key things that kept the team from sliding past these tough teams were minor errors. Sophomore **Carrie Petroski** said that if the team could have eliminated the few bloopers in each game, they could have won more.

"It was upsetting because we could have beaten a lot of the teams we played," Petroski said. "We just had little mistakes, and if we could have just picked it up a little, we could have done it."

The team went into sectionals with a record under .500 and were not expected to get past the first round against Lowell. But their bats were on fire and they easily rolled past the Red Devils. Then came the Highland match-up, and with the help of a lot of fans, the team squeezed their way by them and into a second place finish in the sectional championship game against Lake Central. So though this season wasn't a game of horse shoes where points are scored for being close, the softball team stirred up a lot of attention and definitely ended their season with a bang.

-Jessica Everhart



Photo by Tony Papa

Scoreboard

Us	Them
3	Highland 3
5	Munster 2
10	Wheeler 0
15	Gary Roosevelt 1
12	Hoover Central 0
10/7	Kankakee Valley 3/6
7	Highland 2
17	Lake Station 1
1	Andean 11
5	Crown Point 6
3	Calumet 1
3	Lowell 0
12	Morton 2
5	Munster 2
6	Clark 3
8/12	North Judson 7/2
9	Bishop Noll 5
5	Gavit 4
4	Hammond High 3
2	Whiting 0
8	Lake Central 9
4	E.C. Central 7
7	Hobart 5
	LAC Tourney
14	Clark 1
5	Munster 3
13	Highland 9
	Sectionals
10	Gavit 2

Using his power

Making contact with the ball, senior Ian Flores does his best to put the ball into play. Flores was a utility player for the team, playing first and third bases, and pitching.



Photo by Tony Papa

Keeping the books

Winning over the season, junior Christopher Hill keeps the pitching chart for the Panthers in the mound. Hill was a starting and relief pitcher, plus a third baseman for the team.

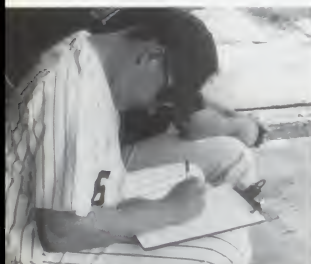


Photo by Tony Papa

Lasting Memories

It was a season that will most likely be remembered by many for many years to come. The varsity baseball team had a year full of exciting moments and memories.

"My most exciting moment of the year was coming into the Conference Championship," said junior **Christopher Hill**. "I shut down Highland to help my team win."

The year for the Panthers was keyed hugely on the word "team." The Panthers learned what it takes to win as a team.

"We played hard as a team all season long," said coach **Brian Jennings**. "Everything we got, we earned."

The season was more than just baseball for some. Being a part of something can be just enough for someone.

"It was cool being on the team because I finally felt like I was a part of something," said senior **Brandon Shropshire**. "I'm happy we had a good season and that we were sectional champs."

-Kevin Suba and Jessica Everhart

Laying it down

Sacrificing for the team, junior **Christopher Brookhart** does what he can to put down the count for the team. "Winning was fun and we won the whole year long," Brookhart said.





Junior Varsity

Front row: Kenneth Dumes, Tim Jalar, Mark Govert, Timothy Hubbard, Matthew Calender, Peter Bathurst, Brad Gowhen, Anthony Fytesta, Back Row: Michael Neleman, Matthew Ima, Pat Murdoch (coach), Matthew Lewis, Jack Johnson, Nicholas Planer



Varsity

Front Row: Luca Steapleton (mgr), Coach: the Five, Jason Dumes, James Phillips, Alex Crawford, Armand Man, us (mgr), Second row: Joviel Williams (mgr), Jason Lebata, James B. Blackhart, Kyle Thompson, Michael Thompson, Jon Pires, Lee Russell, Amber Fair (mgr), Back Row: David Mazzocco, Christopher Troksa, Jim Tepestra, Tony Shattin, Vitoachy Brian Jennings (coach), Kevin Suba, Brandon Shropshire, Ryan Hill, Paul Duxley (mgr)

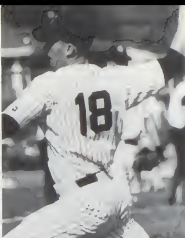


Photo by Tony Papa

Blowing gas

Throwing the ball to the plate, senior Jim Tepestra tries his a little. I think the season will be remembered for a long time by the players, coaches, parents, and our fans," Tepestra said.

Playing it safe

Taking a lead off of first, senior David Mazzocco tries to get a good jump towards second. Mazzocco played left field all season long.



Photo by Tony Papa

The Numbers Add Up

The percentage of people who are 6 feet or taller on the team.

17%

The number of regular season wins for the varsity team.

23



Photo by Tony Papa

Waiting on deck

Swinging the bat, junior Kevin Suba gets ready to go up to the plate. Suba was a designated hitter for the team but also played catcher and first base.

Photo by Tony Papa



Photo by Tony Papa

Looking in the ball

Feeling the ball, senior Christopher Troksa makes the routine play. Troksa played first base and pitched for the team.

Order in The Court

Three different coaches in three years. How does a team get used to a new person every year? The girls' tennis team knows a lot about this subject.

After losing long-term coach **Tim Maluga**, the girls had to get used to the new tennis coach, **Scott Baker**.

"The most difficult thing about this season was dealing with the changes going along with a new coach," junior **Claire Hudacin** said. "Scott [Baker] is the complete opposite of Tim [Maluga]. He has new ways of doing things."

Hudacin said Baker gave all the girls individual attention, which helped improve their play, according to sophomore **Stacie Kapciak**.

"The coach taught me how to be a stronger hitter and how to improve my serve," Kapciak said.

Senior **Meagan Clarke** said that Baker worked the girls harder than previous coaches.

"Coach Baker was extremely rough on us," Clarke said. "He only wanted people out there who tried their hardest."

Though the team didn't have a winning season, Kapciak said it was memorable when they won as a team.

-Susan Huss

The Numbers Add Up

The number of seniors
1 on the girls' tennis
team.

The number of freshmen
3 on the girls' tennis
team.



Front Row: Lindsay Chapa, Kristina Gornert, Julie Jackson, Fische Hight, Jennifer Sims
Second Row: Scott Baker (coach), Julie Lader, Stacie Kapciak, Kelly Davis, Meagan Clarke

Photo by Tony Papa

Scoreboard

Us		Them
4	Whiting	1
1	Lake Station	4
1	Chesterton	4
4	Morton	1
0	Merrillville	5
0	Crown Point	5
4	Hammond High	1
2	Bishop Noll	3
1	Lowell	4
2	Calumet	3
0	Andean	5
0	Munster	5
0	Highland	5

LAC Tourney, 9th

2	River Forest	3
1	Sectionals	4

Photo by Tony Papa



Taking the lead
 Standing on defense, senior Meagan Clarke (middle) against Ellen "Toots" Tennis gives the school a accomplishment. It has helped me with my confidence and sense of knowing," Clark said.

On the lookout
 Learning how to win through, freshman Julie Cadie covers the court. "The funnest part of the season was when every one won their match and we all celebrated together," Cadie said.



Photo by Matt Fliter



Fighting the sun
 Squinting in the light, junior Christina Covert (preparing to return a forehand) Covert played number three singles. "The year was different because we only had 10 girls play instead of 20 the last year," Covert said.

Photo by Matt Fliter



Photo by Matt Fliter

On the line
 Screaming to reach the ball, junior Claire Hudach makes a return while playing doubles with junior Lindsay Chapa. "This year was different because we had a new coach who did things differently," Hudach said.

Going for the birdie

lining up his shot, senior Timothy Turkowski prepares to sink the put. Turkowski, one of two seniors on the team, was chosen the recipient of the Best Mental Attitude for 1997.



Photo by Tony Papa



Front Row: Anthony Papa, Timothy Turkowski, Nicholas Laschkin, Angel Velez; Second Row: Derek Byrthe, Adam Walsbaugh, Brett Benjamin, Kyle Mann, Josh Moon, Marc Brady; Third Row: Larry Parker (coach), Matthew Johnson, Paul Blahunka, Bryan King, Thomas Melton, Tom Wells (coach)



Photo by Matt Filmer

And the winner is...

Looking on with anticipation, senior Marcos Marc Brady and Angel Velez wait for the awards to begin after dinner at the Spring Sports Banquet. Brady, in his first year on the team, was voted junior varsity MVP.

Leader of the pack

Keeping his eyes on the ball, junior Paul Blahunka awaits the ball to wards the hole. Blahunka was ranked first on varsity, was selected varsity MVP, and was named to First Team All Conference.

Photo by Tony Papa

Scoreboard

Us		Them
179	Lake Station	301
174	Andrean	167
183	Calumet	256
190	Lowell	177
161	Morton	194
187	Munster	180
171	Clark	228
363	KV Invite	
181	Bishop Noll	199
175	Gaviit	175
357	Ubele Invite	
166	Highland	172
167	Hammond	235
186	Hanover Central	187
353	IaConetti Invite	
163	Whiting	213
355	LAC Invite	
344	Lake Central	312
367	Sectionals	



Photo by: Tony Papa



Like father, like son

Taking over their shirts, sophomore Joshua Moon and his father, an avid golfer, teamed up together. Moon and his father participated with their team members in the first father-son golf tournament.

It's all in the numbers

With a 3-0 win record, junior Matthew Thon and his team, the Eagles, finished first in the Second Team All-Conference.



Photo by: Tony Papa

The Numbers Add Up

3 Of the golfers made First or Second Team All-Conference.

6 Of the team members have played golf at least one year.

Being the best isn't always the most important thing. Sometimes being average, having fun, and getting free golf is all that it takes to make a season enjoyable. Although not a bad season, the team never had high expectations.

"When we saw our scores at the start of the season, we only had mediocre expectations," senior **Anthony Papa** said. "We pretty much knew that we wouldn't be great."

The team had some fun during the season. The first father-son golf tournament was held and players and coaches played each other.

"My favorite part about being on the team was being able to beat coaches [Larry Parker and Tom Wells] in a game of golf," junior **Paul Blahunka** said.

Blahunka was the brightest spot on the team, qualifying for Regionals and being named a runner-up to First Team All-Conference.

"It feels great to be named to it because it proves to myself that I'm one of the best in the LAC," Blahunka said.

Some members enjoyed the simpler things about being on the team.

"I really liked the free golf," Papa said. "Golf is expensive so it was really cool."

-Amanda Greevich

Aiming for par

Running away

Sprinting backlist, her opponent, freshman Tiffany Juarez, with her toughest to move to the front of the pack during a track meet. Juarez ran the one and two mile races for the varsity team.



Cheerleading

Front row: Lindsay Govert, Laura Blahunka, Back row: Marissa Sills, Danielle Trueblood, Kimberly Reyome, Stephanie Dross



Basketball

Front row: Nick Love, Megan Meisano, Brittany Ford, Nick O'Grady, Lauren, Tiffany Juarez, Kelly McCabe, Back row: Matthew O'Grady (mgr.), Lauren Chappel, Veronica Jacobs, Karen Kelly, Kelly Davis, Pence Worthen, Coach Deana Klebs



Volleyball

Front row: Nick Love, Rachel Chandler, Cathy Dimovski, Elizabeth Potesta, Back row: Jamie Campbell, Nichole Damron, Amanda Mitche, Laura Sims, Jessica Newell



Photo by Tony Papa





Photo by Tony Papa

Keeping it alive

Spiking the ball from the front line, freshman Nikki Love is the lifeline and ally for the volleyball team. "We always do what she has to do to help the team out," said team manager and coach Elizabeth Potesta.

Getting her feet wet

Track and field swimming coach, freshman Shannon Crutch was one of two freshmen who swam in the swimming team's year. Swimming has been your athletic achievement, your armor, and out to prove yourself.



Photo by Matt Filer

The Numbers Add Up

This is the number of
33 freshman girls on the
girls' tennis team.

The percentage of fresh-
man girls on the
38% girls' track team.

In girls' sports it is quite possible that the first chance they have to be athletically challenged is during their freshman year in high school.

First Time Around

court."

Learning to work together is not the only thing that one can learn in sports; making new friends and meeting new people is also a part of athletics.

"I enjoyed swimming because of all the new people I met," said freshman Lacey Hall. "The competition made swimming a lot of fun."

Being a part of school sports is a privilege as well as a chance to keep the students supporting the school.

"I enjoy tennis because I am spending time with friends," said freshman Julie Cadle. "It also keeps me active with the school."

-Kevin Suba

Pausing for a moment

During the break, freshmen Danielle Trueblood and Lauren Chappel took a breather during a track meet to discuss the first event, Trueblood was a javelin thrower and Chappel was a jumper.

Photo by Tony Papa

Wearing through opposing players, freshman **Matthew Gonzalez** (1-1) is a smooth-footed player. "During the game, I was wearing Adidas 2002," freshman **Tom Cervenak** (1-1)

Dimos plays offense. "The best thing about the basketball season was that I was voted M.V.P.," Dimos said.



Photo by Tony Papa



Basketball
Front row: Jeffina, Ryan, Mike, Jimmy, Timminah, Matthew, Gonzales, Daniel, Michele, Benjamin, Jotokai. Second row: James, Campbell, Ryan, Elythe, Juan, M, Christopher, Spieris, Brett, Martinus, Nicholas, Demelle. Back row: Joseph, Tharp, Nathan, Laird, Adam, Lukas, Fern, Susan, Anthony, Neri, Oros, Kyle, Schaefer, Jacob, Malone.



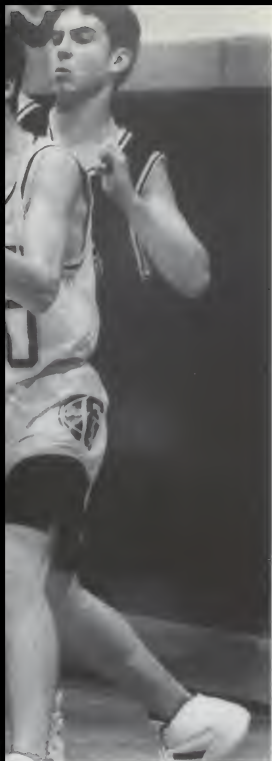
Football
Front row: Andy Murray, Paul Davis, John Flanagan, Ryan Dolan, Donal O'Connell. **Second row:** Ryan Murphy, Peter Dinkley, Justin Limerick, John Higgins, Peter Handley, Stuart Peggard, Tom Cusack. **Third row:** Jimmy White, Steve Brett, Anthony White, John Ryan, Blythe, Diane O'Connor, Brandon Potts, Brian Hodge, David Howard, Paul Hogg, Johnathan, Nathan Aspin, Jimmy Cusack, Brian Power, Kyle Sutorick, Gael Santos, Jacob Malone.



Photo by Tony Papa



Front Row: Matthew Jones (mgr.), Laura Longmire, Sarah Thompson, **Second Row:** Douglas Funder, David Africa, Christy Greenaway, Anthony Finkbeiner, Elizabeth Pym, Craig Vach, **Back Row:** Robert Harkins, Kristopher Worsing, Jimmy Saffers, Alex Lucas, Coach Pam Grout, Ned Dimes, David Manning, Amanda Conners, Melissa Smart



Bringing in the new Recruits

Running, swimming, jumping, and throwing are all things that are a part of sports and the first time that one can be introduced to them at a mature level is their freshman year in high school.

"I pole vault in track and I am a swimmer," said freshman **Danny Vessell**. "I like to play these sports because they are fun and they keep me in shape."

In some freshman sports, practices are enjoyed more than the game, according to freshman **Chris Jackson**.

"When we take infield in practice I have a lot of fun," said Jackson. "I also had a lot of fun scrimmaging the JV even though we lost."

For the swimming team, qualifying for sectionals as a freshman is something that does not usually happen.

"All the freshmen on the swim team made sectionals," freshman **Jeremy Martin** said. "That is difficult because you have to place in the top 12 and that is mostly juniors and seniors who make it."

-Kellie Sternberg, Susan Huss and Kevin Suba

The Numbers Add Up

The percentage of freshmen that were in the baseball program. **35%**

The percentage of freshmen on the basketball teams. **14%**



Photo by Joseph J. Williams



Photo by Tony Papa

Guzzling it down

Quenching his thirst, freshman **Robert Hancher** chomped at his baseball game. "We were down by three against Highland. We still lost but it was a good effort," freshman **Michael Swartz** said.

Standing his ground

Returning the ball, freshman **Michael Hernandez** works up his paw hand at tennis practices. The only freshman on the team, Hernandez plays as a doubles with junior Mike Neal. Neal



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Introducing economics on the first day of school, Jim Pickett, social studies, shows the book to the class. "I like teaching economics because it's about real life and money," said Pickett. This is Pickett's seventh year teaching economics at GHS.

Once Around The Classroom

...in core classes

"I think they're [core classes] ok," said freshman Kristen Salczynski. "So far they have all been pretty easy for me, and English is probably my favorite."

...in electives

"I enjoy the harder and more interesting classes taught at GHS," said senior Nicholas Brownfield. "I enjoy the challenge it [computer programming] gives me. I don't feel the regular classes provide enough challenge and encouragement for me to excel."

...in advanced/AP classes

"I used to be in advanced classes, but I stopped taking them in order to get better grades," said sophomore Selena Saldana.



Timeline

September 16-21
ISTEP Testing

December 2
Basic Bio Shedd Aquarium fieldtrip

Americanism and Government test
November 17

Job Shadow Day
February 2

Cheering on the Spellbowl team, junior Andjela Subotic sits with the mascot, a skunk, and grad kids. The skunk winks and gives out the local competition, possibly one night.

Making up a quiz, senior Christopher Hitt takes a break in the study room to make up a response. He had missed Hitt was in biology. It was Sandra Beuhm.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Time for Success

Before the football games, dances, meetings and competitions, academics rank. Being a part of the student body at GHS gave many students high standards to live up to. While some chose to fill their schedule with just the core classes and many electives, others were drilled with a rigorous schedule day after day. No matter what kind of classes students decided to occupy their time with, all had to adjust to new rules and policies.

Whether students carried Baby Think-It-Over around for child development or pulled an all-nighter working on their cell project, there was always something going on. The JETS team won first place at Valparaiso University and two students received national ranking on the Americanism and Government test.

Many seniors hurried to take SAT's before college, while some sophomores and juniors were already taking them.

No matter what the class was, or what was involved in it, the courses in the curriculum at GHS all helped students excel for their futures in some way.

-Nicole Voges

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

February 25
Bio 3-4 Kinetic Convention

May 5
Top Ten Dinner

JETS competition
March 2

Recognition Night
June 2

Academics
Divider 121

*H*olding their pencils, sophomore Sarah Handley and Elisabeth Heifen take lead in modeling a protein. Following their lead, the class is divided into groups to model the protein's structure. The students use clay and observation skills to determine the protein's structure.

*H*olding their pencils, sophomore Sarah Handley and Elisabeth Heifen take lead in modeling a protein. Following their lead, the class is divided into groups to model the protein's structure. The students use clay and observation skills to determine the protein's structure.



Photo by Matt Fliter



Photo by Nicole Voges

Experimental Learning

Projects bring new levels of understanding

How important are dissecting a pig, acting out skits, and having Elizabethan feasts to learning?

According to **Ruth Carmichael**, science, projects are extremely important. "It's rewarding to see students gain understanding while using lab and analytical skills," Carmichael said.

Carmichael's classes did many projects, including extraction of DNA from cells, regulation of gene and enzyme action in cells, and dissections. However, her advanced biology class also took a field trip to the Genetics Update Conference to enhance their learning.

"What I found interesting was cloning and how you could choose what your kids would be like," senior **Meagan Clarke** said. "It's a moral issue."

Carmichael said projects help classes learn by giving a hands-on experience to reinforce theory.

-Susan Huss





What makes projects memorable?



"We used a little Teletubbie as a security system in our French video. It was really funny."

-junior **Bobby Lassiter**

"I enjoy doing projects because they enable me to empower my students to develop their potential."

-Irma Coddington, Spanish



"I learned [at the Genetics Convention] how much our lives will be affected by all the new biological advances."

-junior **Katina Chapala**

"My English group did three scenes from Julius Caesar. We got a lot of laughs. It was fun to watch it in all the classes."

-Candice Peters



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Defining this kind, Kathryn Martinez, Spanish, hands over food to sophomore Sara Palmer and Mark Govert. Martinez made her sophomore Spanish class a fun one after they read *The White Fishes*.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Getting down ideas, the juniors David Mazzocco and William Race write stories for their class. "The best part about English [at waterhorn Mrs.] Susan Patrick's class, would read to us," senior Johnathan Curtis said.

Learning the fun way

Electives make learning interesting

Science, English, math, and history are all necessary to graduate, but what about the classes you *want* to take? That's where electives step in.

Junior **Nancy Robles** said her favorite elective was ceramics because it was very laid back and she loved working with clay.

"When I was a freshman, I always would watch people throw [pots] on the wheels when I had jewelry class," Robles said. "I knew then I wanted to take ceramics just to learn how to throw."

For some students, it was the teachers that made one elective their favorite. Freshman **Danielle Trueblood** said sewing was her favorite elective.

"Mrs. [Margie] Keithley cares about her students," Trueblood said. "She makes relationships with them, and makes learning fun."

Robles said electives are important classes because they teach you good skills that you will need later on in life.

-Susan Huss

Learning Over, Junior Marissa Villaseñor told of how she "baby" Villaseñor would pretend that she was a real baby for two nights and a weekend. For the Development Unit, she learned a history of the world. Villaseñor said this project was designed to teach the consequences of teen pregnancy.



Photo by Anne Heil.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Attaching fabric pieces together, freshman Megan Poppa sews during Clothing and Textiles. Everyone in the class had to complete three projects. A tote bag was required for their second project, they could make either a box or a hat. The third project was their choice.

Demonstrating to senior Brian Gilbert, senior Lindsay Zimmerman shows her speech class how to apply makeup correctly. Zimmerman's model didn't show up and no girls would volunteer so Gilbert demonstrated his face to help save her grade. Other speeches included how to play the guitar and take photos.





Photo by Anne Hecht



Photo by Eddie Covarrubias

*M*aking time the right way, so does Traci Duncan and Nichole Poskorka. They set up a rooming plan for the coming classes. Duncan, a senior, and Poskorka, a junior, were in the rooming plan. They were in the rooming plan. They were in the rooming plan.

*C*arefully, so does a part, senior, Melisa Smilowski. She is a senior, so does a part, senior, Melisa Smilowski. She is a senior, so does a part, senior, Melisa Smilowski.



Photo by Eddie Covarrubias

Quotes of a Lifetime

"Child Development I really teaches you how to raise kids. It also helps you deal with them whether they're sad, angry, mad, or happy."

-junior **Shelly Hively**

"Advanced physical conditioning made me stronger and relieved stress."

-sophomore **Elliott Miller**

"I like current events because Mr. [Robert] Hastings makes the class fun. He keeps everyone interested and gets everyone involved."

-senior **Bryan Treece**

"I took Spanish because I want my future children to be bilingual. It helped me speak to my Spanish pen pal."

-junior **Amanda Paul**

Would you join an academic team?



Do you think academic teams get enough recognition?



*Survey of 50 JHS students

Receiving the most votes, junior Jessica Everhart made the selection for the members who weren't able to make it to the first trial. Everhart was elected president for next year.

Receiving the 11th highest amount of votes, freshman Brian Hays got selected for being number one in their class. It was very exciting to get the award because my volleyball coach gave it to me," junior Susan Huss said.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Receiving awards, freshmen Malory Bernath, Tom Cecevenak, Laura Blahunka and Jimmy Cunningham gain praise for earning straight A's. It was the first time freshmen would win recognition night.

Standing on stage, juniors Abigail Forbes, Brandon Fane, and Laura Worley gain recognition for being part of an academic team. The JHS team received first place at state.

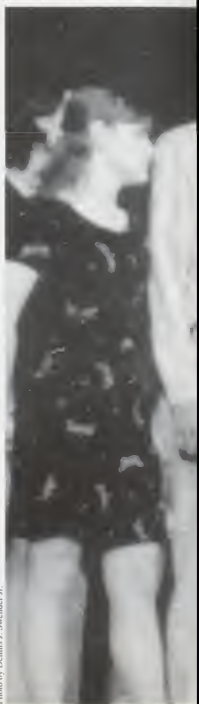


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Kelli Schoon

*S*aving a lesson, juniors Abigail Forbes, Justin Falk and senior Justin Dimos participate in the Honor Society Induction. Students get in the Honor Society based on their GPA and involvement in other activities.

*E*xchanging commitments, senior Shawn Doyle shakes hands with Julie Jachimczak, piano, at recognition night. Doyle played the trumpet in and during four years of high school.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Mind Games

Academic teams work hard at winning

Usually when a person thinks of a competition, they think along the lines of sports. There is another kind of competition though: one where all that's involved is your mind. They are called academic superbowl. There are many categories to choose from like history, fine arts, and English, but not just anybody can join. Students are either picked by their teacher or they have to take tests to join.

Some of the advantages of being on an academic team are learning new things, making new friends, and the many challenges you are faced with, according to sophomore **Amanda Nichols**.

"I think fine arts is very challenging, but rewarding," Nichols said. "I've learned so much and have had a lot of fun with my teammates and our sponsor, Mrs. [Cynthia] Spejewski."

-Kellie Sternberg

Ahead of the rest

IR students get early start on their career

Imagine a class where you're by yourself, you spend your time researching a topic that interests you, and it helps you prepare for the future. Sound good? Ten students took advantage of such a class and became independent researchers (IR).

Senior **Marisa Garibay** said she was glad she chose to do an IR because she had more time to concentrate on her projects.

"I made a set of large drums and did a life-size head study," Garibay said. "I like that I don't have set assignments. I get to choose."

Senior **Jonathan Soverly**, who did his IR for Daniel McCoy, social sciences, said doing an IR improved his writing and researching skills.

"I research and write reports on different times and events in U.S. history. I am planning on being a lawyer so I will need to do research and study historical cases," Soverly said. "My IR gave me the skills to do this."

When prepping for your job, whether it be fashion or law, independent research classes are now available.

-Susan Huss

During the night, seniors Nicole Voges and Dennis Swender work on the second issue of the new magazine, *The Eagle*. Voges and Swender started the project themselves as an IR. "I love the challenge of it," Voges said. "I do things I never thought I could now how to do."



Photo by Gina Menchaca



Photo by Chris Price

During the night, senior **Chad Lukas** stands to make a full ceramic dinnerware set. "I learned there is no right way to do art from my IR," Lukas said. "It is all from scratch."

Using his hands, senior **Ryan Towasnicki** makes a sculpture during his IR hour. Towasnicki had already taken art appreciation, art, and ceramics. "The biggest challenge of my IR was writing in a project every day and thinking of projects to make," Towasnicki said.



70 Working with the English 300 Paper on, senior Kyle Plesniak is writing songs. Tom Leary, Finance and Economics major, is working on a paper on the Internet, sponsored by Cynthia Spejewski, Ph.D. "My biggest challenge was having a partner," Finance said.

Senior Kim Henrich, Jean Leeann Henrich's daughter, is working on a paper about the Internet and its impact on the world. He is working on the paper on the Internet and its impact on the world. "I've been to Paris 10 times and I've been to Paris 10 times," he said. "I've been to Paris 10 times and I've been to Paris 10 times."



Photo by Chris Pike

Quotes of a Lifetime

"My art IR helped me prepare for my future career somewhat because I am going to major in architecture but I might work with special effect after I graduate from college."

-senior **Ryan Towasnicki**

"I decided to do an IR because I really like ceramics and working with my hands in building and such. Having an IR gives me extra time."

-senior **Marisa Garibay**

"I've learned how to handle being dependent on myself for everything. It's not like other classes. You're all alone in an IR."

-senior **Nicole Voges**

Photo by Chris Pike

Exchange students in Griffith school, including **Natasha Vukovic**, were warmly accepted. Vukovic was in month beginning course position and Al. En. After Vukovic came to America, she had her first year.

For the first time, **Borislav Damjanovic** and **Sasa Jervovic** sat in the classroom. "I miss Serbia, because I don't have friends here," Damjanovic said.



Photo by Kevin Suba



Photo by Anne Hecht

Exchanging Places

Foreign students arrive in Griffith

Hallo, bonjour, salut, and zdravo are all variations of "hello" that you might have heard in the halls at school.

With two foreign exchange students from France and Germany, and several new Serbian students, the faces at our school were changing.

Senior **Kathrin Schmidt**, from Germany, said that although she had trouble adjusting to rules, she is glad to be here.

"The advantages of being here are food coupons, cheaper clothes, especially jeans, and friendlier people," Schmidt said.

While Schmidt said the best thing about being here is getting to know new people, junior **Borislav Damjanovic**, from Serbia, disagreed.

"You can get your license at age 16," Damjanovic said. "In Serbia, it's 18."

Whether coming here to avoid war or learn new cultures, foreign students are "coming to America."

-Susan Huss





Why did you come to the United States?

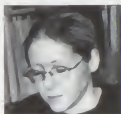


"College education is better here and there are a lot more opportunities."

-senior **Marko Petrovic**

"I wanted to learn how to speak English better than I learned in France."

-senior **Amandine Chardonnereau**



"I came because there's a war in Serbia."

-junior **Borislav Damjanovic**

"I came because I heard so many good things about it and I think it's a wonderful country."

-senior **Kathrin Schmidt**



Photo by Annie Hecht

Flying ahead of the pack, senior Marko Petrovic is not a shy country's product. Petrovic is a former basketball player, "but I don't like to do sports because I don't like to be the only one," Petrovic said.

Photo by Patricia Serrano Jr.

Catching all eyes, senior Kyle Plesniak and Kathrin Schmidt crossed for senior Marko Petrovic. Schmidt came to the U.S. to catch Marko Schmidt. "The hardest thing here is having all eyes," Schmidt said.

Getting into the habit

Students reveal study techniques that work

Studying can be a real bummer, but if you add a couple friends it isn't as bad as students thought.

When students got themselves in a jam with homework in a class they usually look to their friends.

"I ask my friends for help before I ask a teacher," said sophomore **Anthony Potesta**. "When I ask my teachers I find they are not much of a help."

When it comes down to test time, some students have to be away from the least bit of distraction.

"I usually stay away from everyone else so I can concentrate," said senior **Heather Galiher**.

Whether it's studying ahead of time or the night before the big test, students found that their study habits really work.

"I usually start studying for the test the day I find out about the test. I go over it a little bit at a time," said junior **Laura Loudenber**.

Whatever it takes to excel, students have found themselves using every bit of it to help their grades.

-Sara Grudzien

Getting into the way, sophomore **Tana Lenker** divides her homework assignments. Tana G. Hirsch's history class adviser gives homework assignments in order to prepare students for upcoming tests. "I study by myself in my room. I try to memorize the answers to the questions I find. I'm going to ask in the test," said Lenker.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

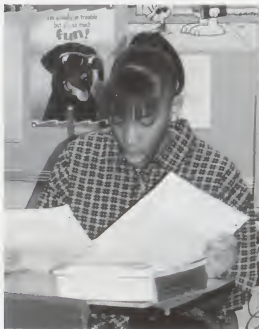


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Making a few adjustments, senior **Monique Jones** compares her homework answers in Susan Patrick's British Literature class. Students found that they get better grades when they do their homework with friends so they can compare answers.

Studying away, freshmen **Nicole Goodwin** and **Julie Cadle** get ahead and start on studies in Puth Carmichael's biology class. Doubled have been a studying method that the biology teachers have used for years.



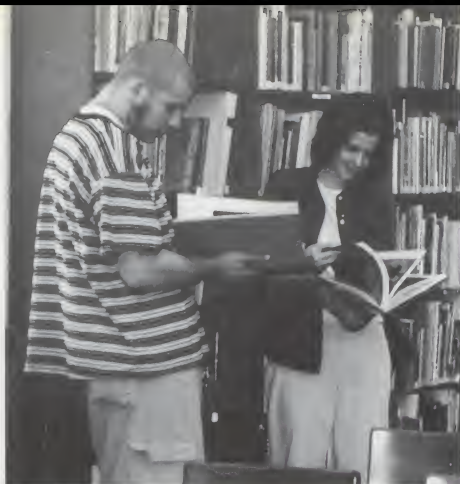


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Finding a quiet place to study is a challenge for Luke Pierson and Jacqueline Rousseau. The students, who are from Central Falls, Rhode Island, are looking for a quiet place to study in the library, using an Internet site to find a quiet place.

The students, who are from Central Falls, Rhode Island, are looking for a quiet place to study in the library, using an Internet site to find a quiet place.



Photo by Jocelyn J. Williams

Quotes of a Lifetime

"I listen to the radio and eat while I study."

-freshman **Marissa Sills**

"The only thing I studied for this year was the SATs, I did the practice problems."

-junior **Mike Bakker**

"I take the material, look over it and kind of memorize it the night before the test."

-sophomore **Jennifer Sims**

"I lay all of my books out on my bed, then I spin around three times and pick which subject I want to do first, then I turn up the radio really loud and study for that subject."

-senior **Lori Mills**



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Do you enjoy challenging classes?



Do classes at JHS need to be more challenging?



*Survey of 68 JHS students

70 percent of the students. Dale Theil, instructor for measurement and geometry, says he intends to tailor his classes to better challenge his students. "Being ahead in math is a matter of self-motivation and interest," he says.

Reading, then, comes with Abigail Forbes and Michelle Bagwell. "I like to read anything I can get my hands on," she says. "I like to read anything I can get my hands on," she says.



Photo by Susan Huss



Photo by Matt Fliter



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Taking notes, senior Laura Zagrocki, Timothy Turkowski, and Kyle Pleciak made through AP calculus. William Platt, math, taught them calculus.

During over the year, with the help of Phillip Cadle, senior, during the year, one of the advanced students made the Chemistry A.



Photo by Tony Papa

Calculus teacher Justin Falk says he has great students in AP classes. The class went to Portage High School to learn about the history and science of genetics.

Teachers, including Brianna Bieker, Bryan King, and Matthew Gonzalez, often find it hard to find a class that is as challenging as AP classes.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Taking the challenge

AP classes bring learning to new level

Ever find yourself running around trying to finish your pedigree for AP biology or solve that seemingly unsolvable problem? For those students who chose to take challenging classes, that is what their lives consisted of.

"It's somewhat hard to keep up with AP biology, but it's fun," junior **Mira Damjanovic** said. "We did this fruit fly project where we had to cross-breed them. It was repetitive and you had to count them every day at least once, but it was interesting."

Senior **Patrick Riordan** said AP calculus heightened his math skills.

"I developed a certain type of thought process that you can't get from other math classes," Riordan said. "It's like geometry on a new level. It kept my math skills sharp since you have to recall things a lot."

By taking advanced placement classes you can earn college credits and gain the background you need for college.

-Susan Huss

Photo by Matt Hiler

*Looking at various
furniture, Ann and
Fareedah enjoy seeing
Arber Hecht showcase
Autumn Models at the
New Design Association.
Hecht wanted to know
what it takes to design
and make it a good com-
mune.*

*They tell friends
and, when Justin
Brimyer puts the finishing
touch on a wall, the students in
the design association
are there to see it. Hecht
wants to know in part,
what it takes to make
it a good commune.*



Photo by Annie Hecht



Photo by Tony Papa

Styling their future

Area career center gives hands-on learning

It's 8 a.m. Instead of listening to a teacher's lecture, you're cutting someone's hair or renovating an old house. At least you could be if you spent your first three classes at the career center.

Junior **Adam Wartsbaugh** said he enjoyed his career learning because he wasn't always in the classroom, since his class fixed houses.

"The career center made me think, because in some situations, if you mess up you will hurt yourself and others," Wartsbaugh said.

Prepping for her career, junior **Shauna Tulba** took cosmetology so she could get her license to do hair and nails.

"I recommend career learning because if you are dedicated, you can get a lot accomplished," Tulba said.

Wartsbaugh endorses the career center because it gives you on-the-job training and an edge on others who haven't gone there.

-Susan Huss





What's the best thing about career learning?



"It's preparing me for my career by providing me with an introduction to higher level programming."

-senior **Daniel Santare**

"It helped prepare me for my career by teaching me everything about cars, and we got to go to car shows."

-junior **George Maddox**



"We get to work with each other's hair and try out new styles in cosmetology."

-senior **Kristi Foust**

"It's like a real life job only you don't get paid with money, you get paid with credits. You find what it's like in that field."

-junior **Jeff Hughes**

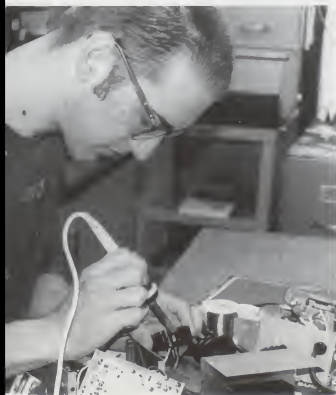


Photo by Tony Papa

Brandon Reba, a senior, is working on a power supply unit in the electronics center. "We learned how to use the soldering iron and how to use the multimeter," he says. "We also learned how to use the oscilloscope and the logic analyzer."

Observing a problem with a car, junior Jeremy McCarthy, Troy Damron and Gabriel Inzary try to see how to fix the problem. "We also learned how to use the multimeter and the logic analyzer," he says. "We also learned how to use the oscilloscope and the logic analyzer."

Photo by Tony Papa

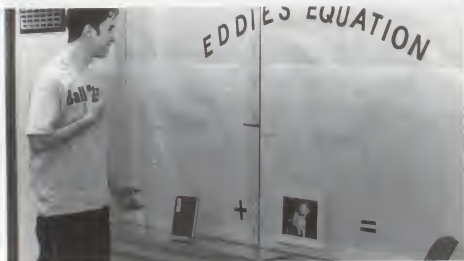
One in a Million

Every individual at GHS found a way to express himself, whether it was by the clothes they wore, their attitude, or their actions. Along with a new school year came new trends and fashions. Flared jeans and capri pants took over for cargo pants and boot leg jeans. Black pants held their ground and three-quarter length shirts became popular. Jeweled hair pins, butterflies and dragonflies became popular accessories.

New movies, like *Star Wars: The Phantom Menace* and *Never Been Kissed* caused excitement among students. Popular TV shows like "The X-Files," "Party of Five," "90210," "Dawson's Creek," "Loveline" and "That 70's Show" proved popular also. Boy bands became hip with groups like the Backstreet Boys and N*Sync, while Britney Spears, Brandy and Monica took over the 90's divas.

Many students could be found eating at Round the Clock or catching a flick at Showplace 16, while others chose miniature golfing at Schereville Golf Center. No matter what students chose to wear, watch, listen to, or where to go, everyone found a way to make their personality shine through.

-Nicole Voges



Looking at a display, senior Eddie Covarrubias stops to smile at how busy in the library. The display was constructed because Covarrubias borrowed a book from the library and his dog ate it.

Timeline

June- August
Senior Pictures

November 5
Open House

School Registration
August 17-20

Winter Break
Dec. 21-Jan. 1

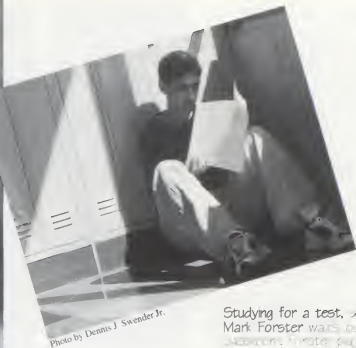


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Studying for a test, sophomore Mark Forster waits outside the school's trimester page board, ruled track and yellow to 100.

Practicing their form, seniors Melissa Steapleton and Keley Zamdt sing a duet during the school's performance. The song was a tribute to the members of the senior class.

A Day In The Life Of

...a freshman

"I went to school, managed football and track and hung out with my friends," said Tara Vaznonis.

...a sophomore

"I went to school, played football, worked out, and hung out with my friends daily," said Craig Kovera. "It was pretty much a daily routine."

...a junior

"I get up at 5 a.m. every day to get ready for school," said Jared Pierson. "Then I go to basketball workout at 6 a.m. and to school. After school I either work out or play basketball again."

...a senior

"After I get up I go to Beinger Elementary School for exploratory teaching," said Tennille Grasha. "Then I stop at home and go to school. After school I work or go to practice."

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

SAT's at Griffith
March 20

May 22
Talent Show

Career Fair
May 13

Senior Banquet
May 24

People
Divider 139

La'Teshia Adams Basketball 12,
Track 12

Rebecca Amos Choir 10 11 12, Chorale 12, Honor Society 10 11 12 (Treas. 12), Reflector 11 12 (Bus. Mgr. 11 12), Class Council 10 11, Panther Press 10 11 (Bus. Mgr. 11)

Michael Andree Jr. Football 9 10 11 (Sect. Champs 9 10, State Champs 11) Wrestling 9, Track 9, Varsity Club 9 10 11 12, Art Club 12, Bowling Club 12

Jason Angel Football 10 11 12 (Team MVP, Capt. 12, BMA 10, All-Conf. 12, Outstanding Def. Lineman 12), Class Council 12

Frank Ashenbaugh

Christopher Babbitt Jr. Football 10 11 12 (State Champs 11), Baseball 9 10, SADD 10 11, Bowling Club 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Jason Bainbridge

Matthew Banke Soccer 10 11 12 (BMA 12, All-Conf. 11 12), Basketball 10 11 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Brian Batinic

Eric Bellamy Wrestling 12

Brian Betts

Robert Bilina

Jill Blount

Brent Bol Wrestling 9 10, Band 9 10 11

Gina Bombin Choir 10

Jennifer Brown

Nicholas Brownfield

Stacy Buckner Pantherettes 10 11 12 (Squad Leader 11, Hist. 12), Booster Club 10 11 12, SADD 11 12, Who's Who Among American High School Students 11

Jeremy Buzea

David Carnahan Soccer 9 10, Baseball 9 10 12, Basketball 9 10 11





Amandine
Chardonnerau

Meagan Clarke Tennis 10 11 12
(BMA 10 11, Capt. 11 12), *Reflector* 10 11
(Album Editor 11), Who's Who Among American
High School Students 11 12, SADD 10 11,
Volleyball 10, Quill and Scroll 10 11

Adam Creviston
Anthony Cruse



Johnathan Curtis

Jenny Dalach Track 9, Tennis 10 11,
Choir 9 10 11 (Sec. 11), Chorale 12 (Pres. 12), All-
State Choir 12, Student Council 9 10 11 12, Class
Council 10 11, Drama 9 11

Justin Dimos
Nikolina Dimovski



Darla Domsic Girls Chorus 10,
Choralettes 11, Chorale 12, Drama 9 10 11 12,
ISSMA 9 10 11 12 (State ISSMA 11 12)

Joan Doppler Cheerleading 9 10 11 12
(M1 10, Hist. 12), Student Council 9 11 12,
Booster Club 9 10 11 12, Honor Society 11 12,
Turnabout Princess 10, SADD 10 11 12, Class
Council 11 12

Shaun Doyle Swimming 9 10 11, Band
9 10 11 12 (Sec. 10, Drum Major 11 12), Jazz
Band 9 10 11 12, Percussion Ensemble 11 12,
Honor Society 10 11 12

Paul Dudley



Timothy Duke Football 9 10 11 12
(Second Team All-Conference 11), Track 9 10, Wres-
tling 9 10 (Outstanding Freshman 9), Art Club 11
12, SADD 12

Traci Duncan Softball 10 11 12, Class
Council 10 11 12 (Sec. 10 11), SADD 12 (Treas.
12), Booster Club 10 11 12, DECA 11 12 (Store
Mgr. 12), Student Council 10 11, Volleyball 10

Katherine Eaton

Kent Elliott Track 10 11 12, Football 11
12



Christina Federenko

Matthew Flannery

Ian Flores

Kristy Florey Cheerleading Mascot
10 11 12, Bowling Club 10 11 12, Class Council
10, SADD 10, Choir 9

Kristi Foust Choir 9, Cosmetology 11 12

Jamie Foy Class Council 10 11 12, Student Council 10 11, Pantherettes 11, Booster Club 10 11, Art Club 12, Concert Band 10 (Treas. 10), Marching Band 10, Pep Band 10

Jimmy Frazier

M. Patrick Fuentes



Heather Galiher

Marisa Garibay Class Council 11 12, Booster Club 10 11 12, Volleyball 10 11 12 (Chair. 10 11), Sec. 12, Class Council 10 11 12 (BMA 11), Art Club 10 11 12 (V. Pres 11)

Matthew Gear

Scott Gierman Panther Press 10 11 12 (Sports Editor 11 12), Track 11 12, Cross Country 12 (MI 12)



Brian Gilbert

Tennille Grasha Cheerleading 10 11 12 (Sec. 12), Track 9 10 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12 (Chair. 10 11, Sec. 12), Class Council 10 11 12, Booster Club 10 11 12, SADD 10 11 12

Karl Grimm Swimming 10 11 12, Cross Country 12 (BMA 12), SADD 10 11 12 (pres. 12), Honor Society 10 11 12, Student Council 10 11 12, Chorale 11 12

Sara Grudzien Volleyball 9 10 11 (BMA 10), Reflector 12 (People Editor 12), Quill and Scroll 12, Class Council 11 12, Booster Club 10 11 12



Joshua Hammers

Carrie Hanchar Cross Country 9 10 11 12 (MI 12, Co-Capt. 12), Track 9 10 11 12, Honor Society 9 11 12, SADD 9 10 11 12, Class Council 9 10 11 12, Student Council 9 10 11 12

Amy Harnew Panther Press 11 12, Quill and Scroll 11 12

Erica Head



Amber Hecht Band 9 10 11 12 (Outstanding Sophomore 10), Reflector 12, Bowling Club 10 11 12 (Capt. 10 11 12), Class Council 10 11 12, Student Council 12, SADD 12, Pep Band 9 10 11, ISSMA 9 10 11

Leeann Henricks

Ryan Hill Football 10 11 12 (BMA 12, Capt. 12, Outstanding Linebacker 11 12, First Team All-Conf. 12, State Champs 11, Sect. Champs 11 12, All-State Hon. Ment. 11), Baseball 10 11 12 (BMA 11), Prom Court 11, Homecoming Court 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Christopher Hitt





Joseph Homoky

Laura Huber

Nicole Huber Booster Club 12, Class Council 12, Softball 10 11 12, SADD 12, Prom Queen 11, Homecoming Queen 12

Jennifer Huesken Choir 10 11 (Sec. 11), Drama 10 11 12 (Stu. Dir. 12), Softball 9 10 (BMA 9), Remnant 9 10 11, Class Council 10, Writer's Block 11



Vanessa Hughes

Sarah Jansen Choir 10, Choralettes 11, Chorale 12, Track 10, Drama 12 (Stu. Dir. 12, Make-up 11), ISSMA 11

Amanda Jennings Panther Press 10 11 12 (Managing Editor 12), Quill and Scroll 10 11 12, SADD 12, Class Council 12, Spanish Club 12, Booster Club 12

Courtney Johnson DECA 10 11 12 (Store Mgr. 11, Pres. 12)



Monique Jones

Sarah Kagel Drama 9 10 11 12 (2nd Lead 9 10 11 12, Lead 11 12, Stu. Dir. 12), Chorale 12 (Hist. 12), Pantherettes 10 11 12 (Outstanding Soph. 10, Squad Leader 11, Pres. 12, All-Star 12), Honor Society 10 11 12 (Sec. 12)

Amanda Kasper Cheerleading 10 11 12 (Asst. Hist. 10 11, Co-Capt. 12), Student Council 10 11 12, Class Council 10 11 12 (Sec. 11), Booster Club 10 11 12, SADD 10 11 12, Morning Announcer 10 11 12

Jemai Kennedy SADD 12, DECA 12, ICE 12 (5th place at Conf.), Art Club 11 12



Sarah Kerr

Clinton Konopasek Football 10 11 12 (Outstanding Wide Receiver 12), Track 9 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12, Art Club 11 12

Daniel Kovera Football 10 11 12 (State Champs 11)

Angela Kozup Chorale 12, ISSMA 9 10 11 12 (State 11), Choralettes 11, Choir 9 10 (sec. 10), Cheerleading 9 11 12, Class Council 12, SADD 12



Angela Krsak Pantherettes 10 11 12 (Outstanding Sophomore 10, Squad Leader 11, V. Pres. 12), Class Council 10 11 12 (Sec. 12), SADD 12 (Sec. 12), Booster Club 10 11 12, Honor Society 11 12, Who's Who Among American High School Students 11

Jamie Kunkemoeller Basketball 10 11 12

Jodie Kunkemoeller

Eric Laczi Tennis 9 10 11 12 (MVP 12, Capt. 12)

Christian Laird Football 10 11 12,
Honor Society 11 12, Concert Band 9 10 11,
Academic Super Bowl 10 11 12 (Capt. 11)
Pep Band 10 11

Carrie Lamb

Jennifer Lang DECA 11 12, ICE 11
12

Paul Larson SADD 10



Steven Laurinas Football 10 11 12,
Track 10 11 12, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Joseph Lavolette Football 10 11
12 (State Champs 11), Varsity Club 10 11 12

Manuel Longoria

F. David Lopez Soccer 11 12 (MVP
12, All-State 12), Football 10 11 12 (All-State
Hon. Ment. 12), Track 10 11 12, Basketball 9 10
11



Chad Lukas Soccer 9 10 11 12, Art
Club 12

Erick Maciszak

Robert Malo Football 10 11 12, SADD
10

Amanda Marcus



Joshua Martin Swimming 9 10 11
12, Reflector 10 11 12 (Sports Editor 11, Man-
aging Editor 12), Quill and Scroll 10 11 12

Stephanie Martin

Tamara Martin

Ebonee Mason



Gabriel Mauch

David Mazzocco Baseball 10 11
12, Reflector 10, Varsity Club 10 11 12

Robert McElmurry

Cynthia McFadden Spanish
Club 11, Bowling Club 10, Art Club 11, DARE
Role Model 12, Reflector 10





T. John Mehok Band 10 11 12,
Spanish Club 11, Bowling Club 10 11 12 (Capt.
11 12), Jazz Band 12, Pep Band 10 11 12

Gina Menchaca Spanish Club 10 11
(Treas. 11), Football Mgr. 10 11 12, *Panther
Press* 10 11 12 (Photo Editor 12), Varsity Club 10
11 12, Booster Club 11 12, Choir 10

Joshua Michalak Swimming 9 10
11 12

Jessica Michels Class Council 10 11



Lori Mills

Michael Moran

Thomas Morosin Drama 11, Choro-
rale 11 12 (Sec. 12), *Reflector* 10 11, Quill and
Scroll 10 11, Boy's Chorus 10

Christopher Mulligan Football
10 11, Track 10



Keirstin Nagy Tennis 10

Erik Negrete Football 10 11 12,
Track 9 10 11 12, Varsity Club 9 10 11 12

Michelle Nicholls

Rachael Nichols Choir 10 11 (Pres.
11), All-State Choir 11 12, Chorale 12 (V. Pres.
12), Honor Society 10 11 12, Student Council 10
11 12, Drama 9 10 11



Jocel Nieto Drama 12, Chorale 10 11 12

Jason O'Donnell Baseball 9 10 11
12, Football 9 10, Wrestling 9, Chorale 11 12,
Varsity Club 10 11 12

Jill Palmer

Anthony Papa Football 10, Golf 9 10
11 12, *Reflector* 10 11 12 (Sports photographer
10 11 12), Varsity Club 9 10 11 12, Art Club 12



Cassandra Paul Swimming 9 10,
Spanish Club 10 11, Cross Country 11, Band 9 10
11

Justin Payne

William Pewitt

Luke Pierson Football 10 11 12 (Capt.
12, All-State 11 12, MI 11), Basketball 11 12,
Wrestling 9

Suzanne Pikus SADD 12, Volleyball 10 11, Basketball 10, DECA 12

Leslie Piszczek Bowling Club 11 12

Kyle Plesniak

Nichole Ploskonka Basketball 10



Jennean Pondo

Danyel Porter Basketball 10 (BMA 10), Art Club 12, Class Council 12

Roger Porter

Laura Purgert



William Race

Sara Raduski

Nathan Ramsey

Jennifer Ranta Basketball 9, Honor Society 9 11 12, Volleyball 9 10 11 (MVP 10), Student Council 10 11, Class Council 10 11 12, Booster Club 10 11 12



Christopher Ray Football 10 11 (MVP 10 11), Who's Who Among American High School Students 11

Jennifer Redar

Andrea Reed Cheerleading 12, Class Council 12, Booster Club 12, SADD 12, *Panther Press* 11 12 (Bus. Mgr. 12), Quill and Scroll 11 12, Varsity Club 12

Kevin Riese



Patrick Riordan *Panther Press* 11 12 (Editor-in-Chief 12, Most Valuable Underclassman 11), Quill and Scroll 11 12 (National Quill and Scroll 11, Pres. 12), *The Edge* 12

Brandy Rockwell Choir 9, DECA 12, ICE 12, Art Club 12

Brian Rodriguez

Chris Romero





Jacqueline Rousseau Who's
Who Among American High School Students
10, Turnabout Court 10, Art Club 12

James Royal
Dale Rudzinski
Emily Rutledge



Dorothy Ryzak
Erica Santana
Daniel Santare Diving 11 12 (MI 11,
Top Diver 11), Swimming 11 12
Ryan Sarver Football 10 11 12, SADD
12, Varsity Club 10 11 12



Robin Satterlee
Amber Scartozzi
April Scartozzi
David Schaffenberger



Katy Schmell
Kathrin Schmidt Choralettes 12,
Bowling Club 12
Kelly Schoeffel DECA 12, SADD 10
Matthew Schroeder



Joe Schultz Football 10 11 12, Track 9
11, Baseball 10, Varsity Club 9 10 11 12
Justin Seat Concert Band 10 11 12, Pep
Band 10 11 12, Spell Bowl 10 11 12 (Capt. 12),
Academic Super Bowl 10 11 12, Honor Society
11 12, Jazz Band 11 12
Joshua Sherbit
Brandon Shropshire

Melisa Smilowski

Holly Smolinski Class Council 12,
Cosmology 11 12

Robert Sochacki

Jonathan Soverly Honor Society
11 12, JETS 10 11 12, Academic Super Bowl 10
11 12, (State Finalist 11, Capt. 12), Spanish Club
10 11 12

Jamie Sponaugle

Tammy Spudic

Melissa Steapleton Swimming 9
10 11 12 (Capt. 11 12, MVP 10 11 12), Honor
Society 11 12, Student Council 9 11 12 (Sec. 12),
Chorale 12 (Sec. 12), Class Council 10 11 12,
Baseball Mgr. 11 12

Kevin Steiber Football 10 12, Track
10 11

Steven Steinbach

Lena Steinhubel

Jeffrey Stone Football 9 10 11

Colleen Strauch Choir 10 11, Cho-
rale 12

Tiah Sweet DECA 12, Choir 9

Dennis Swender Reflector 11 12
(Photo Editor 12), Chorale 12 (M 11), Remnant
9

Shannon Swope Volleyball 9 10 11
12, Track 9 10 11, Choir 10 11 12 (V. Pres. 12)

Jill Talabay Class Council 11, Booster
Club 12, Reflector 12, Quill and Scroll 12

Jim Terpstra Honor Society 11 12,
Baseball 9 10 11 12 (All-Conf. 10 11 12),
Basketball 9 10 11 12 (MVP 11 12), Student
Council 10

William Torres Football 10 11 12,
Track 11 12, Baseball 10

Ryan Towasnicky

Bryan Treece





Joshua Tristan
Christopher Troksa Soccer 10
 11 12, Baseball 11 12, Basketball 12

Anthony Trzupek
Timothy Turkowski Spanish Club 9 10 11 12, Golf 9 10 11 12 (JV MVP 9, BMA 11), Varsity Club 9 10 11 12, Basketball 9 10 (JV MI 10), Football 9, Booster Club 10 11



Larry Turner
Michael Tuzar
Nick Ullrich Football 10 11 12 (State Champs 11), Varsity Club 10 11 12

John Vanek Football 9 10 11 12, SADD 12



Jennifer Vaznonis Cheerleading 10 11 12 (Capt. 12, MI 11), Class Council 10 11 12 (V. Pres. 11, Pres. 12), Booster Club 10 11 12 (Pres. 12), Prom Court 11, Homecoming Court 12, DARE Role Model 12

Jeffrey Vessel Wrestling 9 10 11 12 (Capt. 12), Honor Society 10 11 12 (V. Pres. 12), Student Council 10 11 12, Drama 10 11 12

Nicole Voges Reflector 11 12 (Editor-in-Chief 12), Pantherettes 11 12 (Sec. 12), Honor Society 11 12, Booster Club 9 10 11 12 (Pres. 11 12), SADD 10 11 12 (V. Pres. 12) *The Edge* 12

Natasha Vukovic



Tiffany Vuletich
Suzanne Wargo Pantherettes 10 12, Swimming 9 11 (BMA 11), SADD 12, Class Council 10 11 12, Booster Club 10 11 12, Drama 10 11

Joseph Warrick Football 12, Varsity Club 12, Choir 11, Choral 12, Swimming and Diving 10

Anthony Washick Football 10 11 12 (Most Versatile Player 12), Class Council 12 (V. Pres. 12), Art Club 12



Bridgette Wayo
William Werner
Kristen Wilczynski
Elizabeth Wilson Band 10 11, Jazz Band 11, SADD 11, ISSMA 9 10

Christine Woerner
Jared Wojcik
Emily Worosz
Amy Worth



Ian Wotkun Cross Country 910, Track
9 10, Art Club 11 12, Jazz Band 12, Musical 12

Erica Wright

Laura Zagrocki Basketball 11 12,
Softball 10 11 12, Cross Country 10 11 12 (MVP
11, BMA 12), Honor Society 10 11 12 (Pres. 12),
Class Council 10 11 12 (Pres. 11), Student
Council 10 11 12, Homecoming Court

Kelly Zarndt Girls Choir 10,
Choralettes 11 (M1 11), Chorale 12



Lindsay Zimmerman Swim-
ming 9 10 11, Choir 10 11 12

Mary Zubrenic Choir 10 11 12



Not Pictured

Jamaal Bell
Jeremy Bratton
Justin Brilmyer
Lakesha Brown
Eddie Covarrubias
Benjamin DeJesus
Brian Durall
Sarah Fech
Sharon Gardner
James Henderson
Jonathan Huff

Matty Jabkowski
David Johnston
Margaret Kurzynska
Sherita Martin
Jason Nowlin
Jeffrey Nowlin
Timothy O'Connell
Audel Ocegueda
Eric Parsons
Jeff Patton
Marko Petrovic

Christopher Pike
Brandon Reba
Eric Sarkady
Dayna Scheeringa
John Shanks
John Spriggs
Sherrona Taylor
Karen Tucker

1998-1999 Smashing Hits

Varsity Blues

Split Second

Blue

Contempo

Korn

Butterfly Clips

Mr. McCoy

Shania Twain-Come on
Over and
Offspring- Americana

Ben Affleck

Dawson's Creek

Pizza

Drew Barrymore

Mustang

'Round The Clock

Survey of 39 seniors

*My favorite thing to
wear is.... "Overalls,"*

-senior Erica Santana

"Sweaters,"

-senior Matty Smolinski

"Jeans,"

-senior Christopher Bobbitt

"FUBU clothes,"

-senior Jason Nowlin

"My 1987 Nike
Flights,"

-senior Michael Moran

"My blue hooded
sweatshirt, but
everytime I wear it so
does Marcie Garibay."

-senior Jamie Kaudemoller

Senior

Superlatives

Most Likely to Succeed	Karl Gunninger	Laura Zagrocki
Biggest Brown Nose	Karl Gunninger	Sarah Kagel
First to get Married	Michael Andrew	Amber Hecht
Best Personality	Brian Bednic	Amanda Jennings
Most Involved	Karl Gunninger	Nicole Vages
Best Dressed	Johnny Jassier	Jennifer Kania
Moodiest	David Lopez	Angel Kozup
Funniest	Ryan Hill	Ang Karczew
Best Body	Ryan Sawyer	Nicole Huber
Best Smile	Erick Maciszak	Nicole Huber
Most Unique	Gabe Mauch	Tamara Martin
Class Flirt	Tamathy Luko	Jennifer Vaznanis
Best Eyes	Clinton Kumpasch	Sarah Jansen
Best Artist	Jason O'Donnell	Justine Rousseau
Most Musical	Eddie Covarrubias	Christina Fedorenko
Most Cheerful	Jason Angel	Amanda Marcus
Biggest Partier	Chad Lukas	Sara Roduski
Best Hair	Joshua Tristan	Nicole Huber
Biggest Gossip	Johnny Teperstra	Angela Kozup
Cutest	Jeremy Ruzica	Nicole Huber
Most Gullible	Eddie Covarrubias	Erica Head

Showing their approval

Laughing it off, seniors **Angela Kozup** and **David Lopez** turn to their fellow classmates after accepting their senior superlatives at the senior banquet. They were both laughing in protest among the senior class banquet which took place Monday, May 24 at the Sherwood Library hereville.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Say a little prayer

Leading her classmates in prayer, senior **Melissa Steapleton** starts off the senior banquet with a pre-dinner prayer while class officers **Anthony Washod** and **Angela Krsak** bow their heads. Steapleton volunteered to start off the beginning of the end for most seniors.

Smiling with acceptance

Pleasantly surprised, senior **Eddie Covarrubias** accepts one of his awards from the class officers. Covarrubias was awarded the most musical and most gullible among the seniors at the senior banquet.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

The Good Old Days

Reducing their weight, seniors Sarah Kagel and Thomas Morosan stand on each other's feet in the hallway. The seniors find a way to amuse themselves after a big test in Cynthia Greywolf's hirae class.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Bust a Move

Dancing the night away, senior class members gather together in the middle of the dance floor at the annual junior-senior prom. This was one of the last activities the seniors attended before saying goodbye.

Break a leg

Making it real, senior Anthony Papa imitates a storm trooper in Robert Witt's ceramics class. It took Papa nine weeks to complete his project, including repairing damages.



Photo by David Porter





Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

The joys of seniority

Lazing around, senior Jason Angel decides to read a book in his free time. Angel just got finished with the tent city project in Margate City. "It's a development I need to relax to get my mind's good and relax."

Group hug

Having a party, seniors John Vande, James Royal, David Lopez, Jason O'Donnell, and Brian Gilbert spend the night visiting with each other and the night's party. "It's after the senior banquet," but night many seniors find the chance to talk to people they hadn't talked to throughout their high school career.

Figuring it out Seniors make important decisions

Whether it's going to a local college, a university, or a trade school, seniors are finding direction. Within the past four years, seniors have been given the opportunity to select a path to follow.

Some students have decided to take a break from their journey through high school before they continue their trip.

"I'm taking time off to figure out what I want to do so I don't waste time or money I don't have," senior **Tammy Spudic** said.

Seniors have found themselves applying for jobs earlier in the year to help save money for their college tuition.

"I'm planning to attend Purdue Calumet in the fall, but for now I'm going to work with my dad in the summer," senior **Joseph Lavolette** said.

Even though some seniors are undecided, there are many who know exactly where they are headed.

"I plan to attend Ivy Tech for two years, then after that I plan to go up to Chicago for Culinary Arts," senior **Steve Steinbach** said. *-Sara Grudzien*

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Boy Meets Girls

Shaking her bucket, senior Jemai Kennedy transfers water into a helmet on the football field during Anti-Boys Day. Along with other students, Kennedy competed in homecoming activities to boost school spirit.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Practicing her moves

During a few minutes to warm up, senior Danyel Porter preps for basketball tryouts. Porter was one of the few seniors that took part in tryouts during the winter.

Teen power

Motivating participation, senior Jennifer Vazonis takes part in a youth congregation with guest speaker, Gary Dean. During the assembly on February 9, teens were made aware of the power they possess while being a teen. The inspirational presentation included the five secrets to life: life is a gift, the greatest gift is your mind, find out what you're good at, and give it back to the world, and there is no guarantee on time.

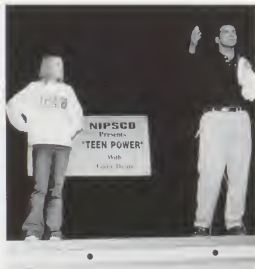


Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.





Photo by Eddie Covarrubias



Photo by Eddie Covarrubias

Lending a hand

Helping out, senior Kristen Wilczyrski (left) with building the Marie Henry Junior development houses are gingerbread houses. Wilczyrski was a nurse for Kathy and she hoped prepare for the class projects.

Fears for fears

Senior basketball player, senior Timothy Duke wants to receive his therapy. Duke hurt his knee during a summer football camp held at Northern Indiana University. Even though his injury kept him out most of the season, he worked with trainers to rebuild the strength in his knee.

Making a comeback

Things of the past as today's trends

Did you ever wonder what it was like to live in the 1920s when swing dance was popular? Or what it was like to camp out at Woodstock, and dress like the hippies did in the '60s.

Even though some seniors took in the latest fads, others disagree with the trend setters. "I don't like the bellbottoms that are coming back, especially with platforms," said senior **Jenny Dalach**.

It's not just the way people were dressing that was coming back; classic movies are also being remade.

"Movie remakes are better now, because they are in color and surround sound and are digitally remastered," said senior **Robert Male**.

Some senior moviegoers found movie remakes weren't what they were cracked up to be. They said that digitally remastered movies are cool, but when movie-makers switch the plot and change the characters, they are not as good as the original.

"I was excited to see the newly remade version of *Psycho* because the original was a classic, but I was disappointed because it lacked the original intensity," said senior **Brian Gilbert**.

Students also found that they were taking part in the same things their parents or grandparents did in high school.

"I think comebacks are pretty cool. We get to experience what happened before and how people dressed," said senior **Leslie Piszczek**.

From tube tops to disco bowling, students began to experience the fashion and activities of previous eras with a '90s twist.

-Sara Grudzien

Photo by Tony Page

The show must go on

Making the final cut between 1,500 and 1,600 applicants, senior Nikolina Dimovski helps another senior choose a deft, steady moment between her last home performance and a final game. As senior band members move on, senior Dimovski lights for the leadership play (see page 11).

Bring in the energy

As a senior, senior Joseph Warrick leads the band with a nod at the high school level to the football team. The band is here behind the basketball team off the season. This was Warrick's first year as part of the team.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Check it out

While looking for his sculpture, senior Robert Malo views other art work. Malo has taken ceramics for the last two years. "One of my first, I made this wing, I was inspired from head to the end of," said Malo.



Photo by Anne Hibel





Packing it up

Seniors unravel memories

Is it a prized possession or just a memory? Whatever it is, seniors have found they won't forget many things from their high school life.

Whether it's an everyday thing or a once in a lifetime moment, some found that these things have brought them closer together.

"The Saturday after the football team lost the Regional Championship game, the senior guys got together and played football one last time," said senior **Erick Maciszak**. "And after that, the guys got into the other person's car and drove on the soccer field just to be stupid," said Maciszak.

Seniors have come to find that the same people that have been part of their daily lives and activities won't be there after graduation.

"I'll miss playing video games and driving around on the weekends with the boys," said senior **Ryan Sarver**.

Sometimes it's the funny moments that happen in class that leave memorable impressions.

"I was in Mr. McCoy's history class and Kristen Wilczynski was singing. I went to flick a candy wrapper, and it went right in her mouth and she choked," said senior **Jessica Michels**.

It's not just moments that seniors will take with them. They are also planning on taking their favorite clothes and possessions.

"I would have to take my favorite white teddy bear," said senior **Amber Scartozzi**.

Even though graduation nears, seniors are finding that there is room to keep the memories.

-Sara Grudzien



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Imagination comes to life
Following directions, senior **Luke Person** draws the jaw interpretation of Chiquel from the episode "Beavis and Butthead" in his art class. The drawing is a requirement for college-bound seniors.

Do the jitterbug
Within their steps, seniors **Amber Scartozzi** and **Christopher Hitt** can't help but dance in Spanish class. The jitterbug dance made a comeback and is being retaught to the class this semester.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Charlotte

Abasa-Nyarko
Samantha Adame
Melissa Adams
Adrianna Aguilar
Salvador Aguilar
Elizabeth Ahlemier
Justin Albright



Kyle Alexander
Aaron Aloia
Victoria Anderson
Angela Arcella
Sarah Bacan
Hayley Baccino
Michelle Bagwell



Michael Baker
Tammy Baker
Michael Bakker
Diana Ballas
Joshua Banning
Colin Banta
Lindsay Beigle



Mary Belcher
Kevin Berger
David Beshears
Lauren Biehl
Paul Blahunka
Derek Blythe
Matthew Boilek



Jaci Bolsega
Gregory Borden
James Braden
Tiffany Briesacher
Jacqueline Brink
Christopher
Brookhart
Rose Bryant



Pamela Campbell
Jeffrey Carpenter
Katina Chapa
Lindsay Chapa
Tabitha Chavez
Paul Chidichimo
Emily Coddington



David Colby
Adam Collins
Kristen Collins
Beth Connell
Gregory Cooper
Heather Cope
Nicholas Crawford



Mike Cservenak
Crystal Cullum
Michelle Cuneo
Erick Cunningham
Boris Damjanovic
Mira Damjanovic
Troy Damron





Lauren Davis
Jacqueline Deyoung
Annie Dinkins
Bonnie Eddy
Jessica Everhart
Metal Ezell
Justin Falk

Brandon Fane
Amber Farr
Trisha Fleishman
Steven Flutka
Abigail Forbes
Gillian Forsythe
John Frye

Allison Gatlin
Demetrios Georgis
Erin Gervais
Lara Gonzalez
Christina Govert
Amanda Grcevich
Matthew Hafner

Joshua Handley
John Hanson
Michael Harnew
Melissa Hart
Nicole Hart
Lisa Hartman
Arianna Hecht

Tammy Heft
Daniel Helfen
Jesse Henderson
Keith Henman
Danielle Hennes
Christopher Hill
Shelly Hively

Vanessa Hooper
Branden Hoshaw
Claire Hudacin
Jeff Hughes
Susan Huss
Gabriel Irizarry
Jacob Johnson

Julie Jordan
Nicholas Jovanovich
Amie Kielbasa
Kara Kmiec
Lisa Koepp
Kyle Konopasek
Kyle Krause

Timmy Krebs
Timothy Kukuch
Carrie LaBuda
Kathryn LaFayette
Jacob Laird
Bobby Lassiter
Chuck Lau

William Lavolette
Michael Leal
Jason Lebata
Sara LeCounte
Christina Lopez
Kelly Loudember
Laura Loudember



Jeremy Luter
Michelle Mackey
George Maddox
Timothy Malo
Corrie Mantis
Kathryn Mauch
Jennifer McQueary



Anne Medsker
Shawn Medsker
Angela Mele
Lora Melton
Gerard Mesman
Caryn Miller
Heather Mladenik



Kathryn Mochon
Brian Moisant
David Moore
Madelyn Moore
Blake Morris
Everett Mull
Patrick Mulligan



Salina Muro
Matthew Najar
Erich Neiswinger
Justin Newell
Julie Newman
Jarrod Novath
Kristen Oros



Christopher Otto
Angela Parent
Elaine Parker
Jessica Pavich
Melissa Petersen
Jared Pierson
Eric Polgar



Nathan Pollock
Nichole Popovich
Michael Powers
Anthony Pruitt
Samantha Quintero
Erica Quiroz
Joshua Rainford



Cory Rakes
Michael Reyna
Heather Rivera
Nancy Robles
Ramon Rocha
Danielle Rossman
Matthew Rusch





Melissa Ryan
Eric Salczynski
Jessica Santos
Stacey Schafer
Julie Scheeringa
Kelli Schoon
Eric Scott



Myoshia Scott
Shannon Sheffield
Matthew Sherry
Pamela Sims
Lisa Skura
Nathan Slathar
Brandon Smelko



Tim Smit
Brooks Smith
Caleb Smith
Reina Smith
Ryan Stage
David Stamper
Kevin Suba



Lawrence Swentzel
Nicholas Taylor
1982-1999
Matthew Terhorst
Falon Terrell
Andrew Textor
Amy Theodozio
Matt Thon



Jason Tomcsi
Ed Tropp
Shauna Tulba
Meghan Tzitz
Erin Ullrich
Tina Varady
Colleen Vechey



Marissa Villaseñor
Mirjana Vlahovic
Lindsay Vrane
Brandon Walker
Andrea Wartman
Adam Wartsbaugh
Kristina Watts



Tani Werner
Cassandra White
Brianna Wilsbach
Kevin Wlazlo
Nicole Wolfe
Laura Worley
Shawn Zolcak



Dana Zukanovich

Not Pictured

Janicka Bettis
Jeremy Branson
Raymond Brines
Carrie Giltmier
Javan Hamer
Sasa Jerkovic

M. Allen Johnson
Kandis Knight
Bret Matthews
Jeremy McCarthy
Leonardo Muro
Amanda Paul

Brandice Reesman
Nicole Romesburg
Craig Sims
Anđjela Subotic
Rachel Sweet
Frederick Walczak

Say "cheese"

Flashing her modeling face, junior Nichole Popovich poses for Marge's publicity. The senior also models Popovich and other students' designs during a Primadonna and modestly in the hallway outside of Marge's room.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Simmer a brew

Watching basketball games, junior Joshua Banning, Samantha Quintero, and David Colby take some time out to watch up on the day's events. The host of friends of many students asked them to help in finding the time to watch with their friends.

The magic moment

On their wedding, junior Matthew Sherry and Lora Melton wait on the stage. Sherry and Melton were also the ring bearer and queen. Junior Colin Banta and Emily Coddington were the ring bearers of their brides.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.





Photo by Dennis J. Swender, Jr.



Photo by Jocelyn J. Williams

Heave Ho

Participating in the tug of war, a group of juniors tried to pull against the seniors. The annual Activities Day was canceled due to rain and weather, and was replaced by Activities Day.

Sing a Little Song

Standing at the podium, junior Brandon Smeko sings the hymns, better known as cantors, at Saint James church in Highland. Smeko was a member of the high school choir.

My country 'tis of thee . . .

With important events like getting a license and taking the SATs, many students completely overlook one of the most important happenings of their junior year. During the course of the junior year, students learn about American history and American literature. Many students feel that this setup is particularly advantageous.

"With world history in your sophomore year and government and economics in your senior year, your junior year is really the only place to put [these classes]," said junior **Brandon Fane**.

A concern of some students is that all of the American classes come so late in the high school career. Other students feel that this isn't a problem.

"I don't feel that it's a problem because you are able to better understand it," junior **Eric Salczynski** said. "After learning about the history of Zimbabwe and Abu-Dabi, it just seems easier to go back to your roots."

While American history may not be as decisive as the SATs or as exciting as getting a license, it is important to know if only to obtain a richer background and culture.

-Josh Martin

Stummin' Along

Hangin' out together junior Eric Salczynski teaches junior Amanda Groevich how to play Sweet Home Alabama. "Sweet Home Alabama" is one of my favorite songs," said Groevich.



Photo by Michelle Camero

Bobby's World

Working during lunch class, junior Bobby Lassiter relaxes near an open window while he does his LPP assignment, while his way to study using hand signals. "Mr. Feuch is a good teacher and he's also energetic," said Lassiter.



Photo by Amanda Hines

Play out it out!

Check out her new 'do, junior Carrie Giltmier plays with junior Kathryn Mochon's hair. Mochon likes her new hair cut. "It's a new look at Griffith and it sticks up," said Mochon. Short hair was popular among the girls at GHS.





Operation SAT

Juniors plan their future

Your future. You probably know what that is, or maybe you don't. College may be part of many peoples' future. Usually a student's junior year is the year they begin looking for a college to attend. For students at GHS, taking the SATs was part of finding the right college.

Many juniors would be taking the SATs for the first time. The big test could have been intimidating for some students, but not junior **Ramon Rocha**.

"I don't think it'll be hard, because I did good on the PSATs and I've heard that's harder," said Rocha.

Junior **Elaine Parker**, who wanted to possibly go into the field of sports medicine, also thought it would be pretty easy.

"I'm taking an SAT class and I'm doing good on the sample problems," said Parker.

Not everyone was confident that they would do good on the SATs. Junior **Gregory Cooper** was a little apprehensive about the test.

"I think the SATs will be hard because I don't know like half of the words on there," said Cooper.

Regardless of which college a student chose to attend, it was imperative that he or she take the SATs. In many cases, a student's SATs score was the deciding factor in college admission.

-Eric Salczynski and Josh Martin



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Construction 101

Getting help from Marge Kethley, co-summer engineer, juniors Emily Coddington, Hayley Baccaro, Bonnie Eddy and Lisa Hartman were in their gingerbread houses. In a unit development class, students learned how to take care of kids.

What lunch do you have?

After registering for lunch, juniors Elizabeth Almeier and Julie Jordan show to see what lunch they have. Mix-ups in scheduling resulted in lunch hysteria. Lunches were overcrowded and some students unfortunately went to the 12th and 13th lunches.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

First Go 'Round

During school spirit, junior Emily Coddington puffs on her powder puff for the first time on Activities Day. The junior won Activities Day for the first time.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

A Father-Daughter Chat

Looking over her dad's shoulder, junior Kandis Knight reaches for over the boys' speeches. Knight's father attended her speech class for the night.

Feliz Cumpeños

Hearing the voices of his fellow students, junior Ramon Rocha listens to his Spanish class sing "Happy Birthday." Imma Coddington brings up all her students when it's their turn to sing. "I felt really stupid because everyone was looking at me, but it was a good fun," said Rocha.



Photo by Kevin Hester





Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

What's going on?

During the onset, juniors Nicholas Jovanovich, Nicholas Crawford, and Christopher Brookhart sat for a few minutes. Many students caught up during the five-minute passing period.

Student for a Day

Listening to a lecture, junior Angela Szotko and principal Linda Eneke took a few notes. Eneke shadowed Szotko for the day. "I got to know her Eneke as a person," said Szotko.

Dreaming to drive

Driving law affects juniors

Driving with friends was what many students looked forward to when they turned 16. A new law, which went into effect January 1, 1999, stated that drivers can only drive either alone or with an adult for the first 90 days after they get their license, not with friends.

Some students weren't very happy with the new restriction on their freedom.

"I've been wanting to get my license forever," junior **Lara Gonzalez** said. "I disagree [with the law] because driving with friends is the whole point to getting your license."

Most students would much rather drive with their friends because they are less stressful to drive with.

"It's easier to drive with your friends rather than your parents," junior **Brianne Wilsbch** said, "because parents freak out and hit the imaginary break on the passenger side."

Now the dream of turning 16 and the freedom that comes with it will be delayed for three months.

-Brandi Harveth

Photo by Tony Pagan

Jason Alexander
Angelina Alvarez
Mark Amos
Valerie Anderson
Carey Baccino
James Baggaly
Morgan Bailey



Melvin Ballard
William Barriga
Peter Bathurst
Stephanie Beigle
Kenny Bellamy
Selena Bermudez
Joseph Bertucci



Daniel Biehl
Brett Bierman
Sarah Blanchard
Kurt Blount
Gregory Bowers
Robert Bradford
Alison Bridegroom



Stephanie
Bridegroom
Brandon Bruce
Jeremy Brzycki
Christy Bumbales
Phillip Cadle
Matt Calhoun
Matthew Callender



Kevin Cap
Lisa Carroll
Jeremiah Cogdill
Jeffrey Cook
Eric Cordell
Natasha Cortez
Michael Cullum



Jason Cunningham
Michelle Cutka
Paul Dalach
Kenneth Darnell
Elizabeth Dash
Craig Decker
Cynthia Delauro

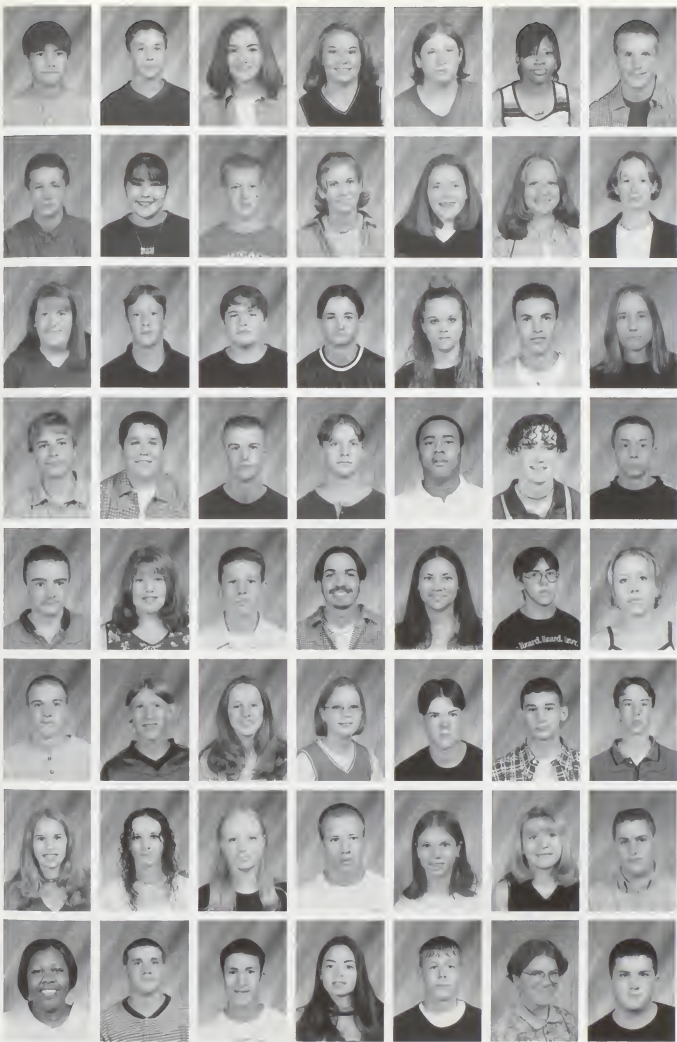


Kyle Domazet
Stacy DuGard
Matthew Fliter
Mark Forster
Kimberly Frederick
Sarah Fry
Melissa Gaddini



Michelle Gaddini
Julian Gajewski
Benjamin Garland
Erica Garnett
Nikki Geffert
Kelly Gerdes
Rodrigo Gomez





Omar Gonzalez
Mark Govert
Sarah Govert
Abigail Greco
James Greco
Kasheena Green
Justin Grimmer

David Gutowsky
Elizabeth Guzman
David Haldi
Amanda Hall
Sarah Handley
Brandi Harveth
Elisabeth Helfen

Kate
Higginbotham
Steven Homoky
Ryan Horn
Timothy Hubbard
Carrie Hutchinson
Khalid Issa
Robert Jabkowski

John Jensen
Robert Jensen
Jack Johnson
Ronnie Johnson
Imaru Jones
Michael Jones
Efrim Juarez

Jason Kane
Stacie Kapciak
Nicolas Kasbohm
Buddy Keelen
Tiffany Kender
William Kintz
Jessica Koepf

Craig Kovera
Christopher
Kronland
Jennifer Laffoon
Tanya Lenker
Matthew Lewis
Matthew Lira
Jason Lundquist

Kelly Mann
Lindsey Mantis
Jennifer Marinos
Kyle Massa
Cristen Mattozzi
Nicole Matusz
Adam McCarter

Jernetta McDaniel
Justin McDonald
Ryan McElmurry
Andrea Melendez
Elliott Miller
Robert Miller
Tom Miller

Tracy Miller
 Katey Milligan
 Daniel Mills
 Joshua Moon
 Theresa Nagel
 Scott Negrete
 Michael Nellenman



Crystal Nelson
 Michelle Newland
 Amanda Nichols
 Ryan O'Keefe
 Brian Osika
 Keri Ostland
 Courtney Ostrowski



Sara Palmer
 Candice Peters
 William Petersen
 Carrie Petroski
 Shawn R. Pewitt
 Amber Piekarczyk
 Richard Piszczek



Nicholas Planer
 Michelle Popovich
 Anthony Potesa
 Lindsey Powers
 Michelle Prewitt
 Amber Price
 Julie Purgert



Deborah Race
 Tyler Radtke
 Shannon Ray
 Daniel Riordan
 Marie Ritchey
 Bret Rochietti
 Chris Rousseau



Julie Rutledge
 Selena Saldana
 Sara Saltanovitz
 Shauna Santare
 Daniela Scheeringa
 David Scheeringa
 Phillip Schlosberg



William Schmitt
 Daniel Schoon
 Kathryn Schoon
 Jason Schultz
 Steven Seatz
 Victor Sendejas



Angela Serrato
 Rachel Sferruzza
 Kevin Shacklett
 Cortney Shropshire
 Justin Sidor
 Jennifer Sims
 Michael Sims





Rebecca Smith
Veronica Solis
Brad Sowinski
Breanne Steagall
Kellie Sternberg
Joshua Swentzel
Tashaya Taylor



Joshua Teague
Alecia Terrell
Timothy Thirion
Rachel Thomas
Jessica Thompson
Michael Tomaszewski
Kristina Toth



Craig Travis
Jonathan Turner
Kathleen Vanek
Angel Velez
Janis Walenkiewicz
Amy Walker
David Wesolowski



Harry Westerhoff
Malinda Whitaker
Dwica White
Crystal Wilcox
Jocelyn Williams
Ashley Wilson
James Wiszowyaty



Joshua York
Tom Zeller
Hannah Zemke
Holly Ziemniak

Not Pictured

Brandon Addison
Marc Brady
Robert Dumigan
Brandon Elam
Dawn Erdoes
Dana Figurski
Christopher Gordon
Shannon Hammers
Anthony Hernandez
John McTaggart
Ryan Moor

Christopher Peacock
Michael Pettigrew
Christina Pierce
Jonathan Powell
Vincent Repasi
Mario Ruff
Adam Stitt
Nicholas Szany
Kimberly Tate
Jillian Tsirtsis
Lance White
Jerome A. Williams



And the winner is...

Picking up a section of the class, sophomore **Brett Biegan** picked up a section of the class and I continue to work. Junior **Benjamin** and I were at the local basketball game. Junior **Chris** and I were at the local basketball game. They ended up winning the game.

We are #1

Leading some encouraging words to the class, sophomore **Linsey Powers** was the first to pick up a section of the class. Junior **Benjamin** and I were at the local basketball game. They ended up winning the game.

Gettin' some grub

Lowering their plates, sophomores David Gutowsky, Shawn R. Powitt, and Rebecca Smith celebrate the L'vare' final feast. Sheil Valan's sophomore friend's boss had the opportunity of making a final project for the play, Julie Caesar.

Making tunes

While tuning her music, sophomore Amanda Nichols plays a sammba shell using a percussion ensemble. "I don't feel to make sure that I spend a little time each day just for music," Nichols said.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Matt Fliter

Let's dance

Taking a break from their daily work, sophomore Stephanie Brudegroom dances with Spanish teacher Irma Coddington. "It was fun, she just put on some Spanish music and asked me if I'd dance," Brudegroom said.





Photo by Dennis J. Savard Jr.

What to wear?

Sophomores express how to dress

From grungy to preppy, to being in style or outdated, students have many trends that they enjoy wearing. Some students dress for style, but most go for comfort.

"I wear what is comfortable, but it needs to be somewhat cute," sophomore **Elizabeth Dash** said, "usually something like jeans and a sweater if the weather is cold."

Sometimes a sporting event helped to decide what to wear the next day, whether it was to dress up or to dress down.

"I like to dress up about once a week because I don't always like to look grungy," sophomore **Veronica Solis** said. "Most of the time it's because of a game or swim meet that we have that day."

Students wore different types of clothing throughout the year. In summertime, girls tended to wear tank tops, but when the school year started, styles changed because of the dress code. For guys, the school dress code didn't really affect them.

"I usually wear jeans and a T-shirt," sophomore **Anthony Potesta** said. "It just depends on how warm or cold my classes are."

Whatever students chose to wear, it showed off their individuality, character, and a hint of personality.

-Brandi Harveth



Photo by Matt Fluer

Working Hard

Working to finish an assignment, sophomore **Michelle Cutka** tries to get her homework done before class is over. Students tried to finish homework before the end of the day so they didn't have to take it home.

Healthiness is happiness

Showing a display, sophomore **Julian Gajewski** studies drug with help from health teacher, **Ron Divjak**. All sophomore students had to take health as a requirement to graduate.

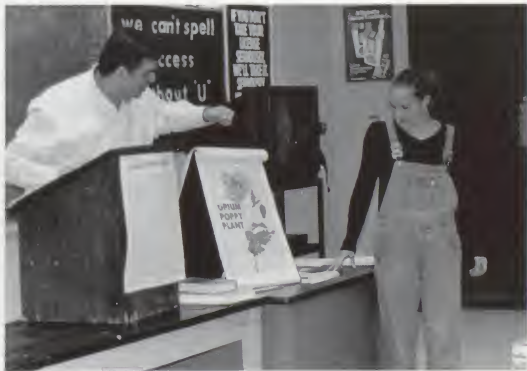


Photo by Keith Schen

Charles
Abasa-Nyarko
Rachel Albright
John Amos
Laura Anderson
Michelle Ashenbaugh
Andrew Augustyn
Joseph Baccino



Joseph Bakker
Alida Baldazo
Allison Banta
Matthew Baran
Derrick Barham
Amanda Barlog
Jennifer Berger



Hillary Bernath
Mallory Bernath
Daniel Bernotus
Steven Beshears
Brianna Bieker
Laura Blahunka
Ryan Blythe



Chris Bogacz
Alaina Borden
Alda Brooks
Adam Brownfield
David Bryant
Michael Bytnar
Julie Cadle



James Campbell
Jamie Campbell
Sean Carey
Christina Cavazos
Kevin Cavazos
Edward Cernia
Mitchell Cervantes



Rachel Chandler
Lauren Chappell
Shannon Churitch
Rachelle Chvostal
Brad Ciesco
Michelle Couch
Richard Cox



Jesse Craddock
Tom Cservenak
Letitia Cullens
Jimmy Cunningham
Jelena Damjanovic
Nichole Damron
Stephanie Daugherty



Kelly Davis
Stanley Degand
John DeJesus
Nicholas Demske
Robert Denny
Neil Dimos
Cathy Dimovski



Stephanie Dross
Anthony Eaton
Stephen Eaton
Krysten Fane
Melissa Federenko
Richard Frostick
Christopher Garnett

Brian Gerenda
Dustin Gogal
Christopher Gomez
Matthew Gonzalez
Amy Goodson
Mike Goodson
Nichole Goodwin

Lindsay Govert
Heather Green
Jessica Gulley
Kevin Guy
Lacey Hall
Daniel Hamill
Robert Hanchar

Matthew Harnew
Daniel Hart
Michael Hernandez
Kerri Hill
Renee Holland
Matthew Horn
Tanya Hunt

Ahmed Issa
Al'a Issa
Hayley Itczak
Christopher Jackson
Veronica Jacobs
Jennifer Jasaitis
Emily Jennings

Melanie Johnson
Victoria Johnson
Billy Jones
Tiffany Juarez
Trisha Kawalski
Karen Kelly
Thomas Keown

Amber Kepple
Bryan King
Heather Klein
Justin Kobeszka
Eric Kocon
Chad Kroll
Ryan Kulinski

Bartholomew Labounty
Nathan Laird
Kevin Lawrence
Thom Leffel
Thomas Leibengood
Mark Lewis
Amanda Lopez

Beth Loudenber
Nikki Love
Adam Lukas
Kristin Lunquist
Carrie Maldonado
Jacob Malone
Kyle Mann



Patrick Markovich
Jeremy Martin
Vanessa Martinez
Xavier Martinez
Christine Matlock
Angela Mazur
Kelly McCabe



Michael McCarney
Frecia McMillon
Thomas Melton
Deanna Mendez
Megan Messinio
Daniel Michels
Andrew
Mikolajczyk



Jonathan Miller
Tammy Milton
Amanda Mitchell
Davita Monagan
Mark Moore
Christina Musilek
Jessica Newell



Jessica Nieto
Claudia Nuno
Daniel O'Connor
Matthew O'Grady
Neil Oros
Bridget Ostrowski
Kevin Pagan



Brittany Parent
Brittany Paul
James Paul
David Petersen
Christopher Pierce
Doug Pondo
Megan Popa



Tre Popa
Jill Popovich
Elizabeth Potesta
Blaine Powell
Christopher
Quintero
Jessica Raddatz
Natalie Raila



Kathryn Ramsey
Philip Ranck
Sarah Raybourne
Douglas Reba
David M. Reed
Kimberly Remye
Bryan Rhoten





John Rios
Julie Ristic
Jonathan Rix
Cyla Roby
Ginger Rockwell
Anthony Rodriguez
Vanessa Rodriguez



Jonathon Rogowski
Alexander Rossman
Stefanie Roznowski
Kristen Salczynski
Jamie Sanchez
Caleb Santos
Jimmy Satkus



Courtney Schmidt
Kyle Schofield
Mike Serbentas
Courtney Shebish
Jessica Sherbit
Marissa Sills
Laura Sims



Ashley Smelko
Bobby Sosa
Matthew Spencer
Christopher Spiegel
Nate Spitz
Nicole Steinbach
Benjamin Stokes



Janie Sutton
Ryan Sutton
Michael Swart
Justin Swentzel
Heather Szczesniak
Aaron Taylor
Allen Taylor



Tamika Taylor
Joseph Tharp
Sarah Tomaszewski
David Toth
Danielle Trueblood
Craig Van Gorp
Tara Vaznonis



Eric Vechey
Amanda Vessell
Danny Vessell
Celina Villarreal
Lea Vogel
Craig Vucich
Tammy Wachowski



Brett Wartman
Ben Weatherford
Adam Wilbert
Ashley Willford
Holly Williams
Tracy Wilson
Steven Wisniewski

Cynthia Woerner
Paul Worley
Renee Wotkun
Vicki Yeager
Brandon Zandstra
Santos Zurita



Not Pictured

Bryan Austin
Giovanni Benitez
Steven Berger
Andrew Borowski
Anthony Dobrowski
Matthew Euber
Jason Fisk
Steven Flores

Carolyn Gardner
Chad Gilmartin
Down Gordon
Claudette Gause
Juan Hill
Reginald Hamilton
Denny Hurd
Brandon Jastrzebski
Juanita Johnson
Travis Johnson

Stacey Jones
Nathan Lavolette
Enika Lindsey
Michelle Metamores
Rachel Murawski
Tim Murdock
Adam Pease
Brandon Powell
Jamie Outgley
Joseph Rosignol

Jenifer Santana
Sam Segura
Ismael Silva
Michael Stevens
Nathan Taylor
Dale Theil
Jason Umlauf
Judy Vasekew
Ryan Zolcak



"I won Most Valuable Player for the freshman basketball team."

Freshman Neil Dimos

Memorable Moments

"My greatest memory of this year is when I realized this is my last year of gym class."



Freshman Jessica Raddatz



Photo by Anne Hecht

Just goofing around.
During some time, freshman Christopher Gomez had a layup during free time in gym class. "We had just had our concert," said Gomez, "so Mrs. [unclear] [unclear] gave us this layoff."



Photo by Dennis J. Scavler Jr.

Open it your throat

Making a debut in, freshman Kristen Salczynski gets a square from the pop machine in between snack area during lunch. "I sat there because it's less crowded than the cafeteria," she said.



Photo by Kelli Schoon

The creative juices are flowing. Drawing a pattern, freshman Angela Mazur works on her needlepoint for Nancy Alton's advanced art class. "I love art and this class is a lot of fun," said Mazur, "but I don't like to get my hands dirty because it's too messy."



Photo by Annie Hecht

Another step ahead

Freshmen walk the road to adulthood

The first day of high school. You're not a little kid anymore. You're a freshman. Excitement, nervousness, new teachers, new friends. And you think, "Will I enjoy it?"

For freshmen Adam Brownfield and Rachel Albright, high school looks like an exciting experience.

"You have more choices (in high school)," said Brownfield. "In junior high, you don't get to choose your own classes, but in high school you do."

Albright has a slightly different outlook on the next four years.

"(High) school excites me because it gives me a chance to see and talk to my friends, and to meet new people," said Albright. "I'll also be more involved in school activities."

Freshman Joe Tharp is scared about one aspect of high school life.

"[I'm scared about] being tardy and getting suspended," said Tharp. "My classes are so spread apart that I have no time to stop at my locker to get books."

However hard, scary or exciting high school seemed, Tharp felt that high school would definitely get better.

"I can start preparing for life," said Tharp. "I can choose classes that are best suited for my desired profession."

-Amber Hecht and Jessica Everhart

Showing school spirit

Participating in homecoming events, freshmen Megan Messino and Elizabeth Potesta draw paintings on the poster in the hallway. This year was the first year there was a freshman class and they actively participated in homecoming.

Nancy Ashton
 Sandra M. Boehm
 Carolyn Brown
 Susan Artim Brown
 Ruth Carmichael
 Darryl Carstensen
 Teresa Carstensen



Irma Coddington
 Barbara Deleget
 Ronald Divjak
 Linda L. Einsele
 Scott D. Feh
 James M. Graff
 Jackie Hanson



Robert Hastings
 Lawrence Hawthorne
 Lynn Heller
 Jean Herd
 Brian Jennings
 Donald J. Joson
 Margie Keithley



Bernice Koby
 Daniel R. McCoy
 Lisa Megquier
 Luann Morgan
 Larry E. Parker
 James Pickett
 Timothy Powers



Steven Prather
 Russ Radtke
 Eric Schilling
 Eric Schreiber
 David Smith
 Judith Surovek
 Mark Swanson



Theresa Sweetky
 Mary Tomscl
 Jan VanderWaal
 Kim Vessell
 Nancy Weaver
 Amy Wilhite
 Robert D. Witt



The School Board

Back Row: Sara Cundiff, Carl Konopasek, William Gall, Jim Reyome, Mike Dobosz
Front Row: Tom Schatzman, John Galambos, Richard Anderson, Dan Goyert



Not Pictured

Jim Anderson	Katherine Martinez
Nancy K. Branyan	Herb Noonan
Martha Davis	Kay Orzechowicz
Charlotte Fedorchak	Susan V. Patricks
Timothy Foss	Bill Platt
Lisa Grubbs	Brenda Price
Ed Hanko	Wayne A. Price
Thom Howell	Cynthia Spejewski
Julie Jachimczak	Sheila Vaclavik
Sheree Kayden	Thomas Wells
Dick Koval	Don Whittemore
Jeff Kubaszky	Marilyn A. Young

"My biggest pet peeve is..."

"...Whining students."

Katherine Martinez, Spanish

"...When students ignore me."

Ronald Divjak, health

"...Bad grammar."

Lisa Megquier, English

"...Rude and disrespectful people."

Nancy F. Branyan, science



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Joshua Swenson

Helping Students A wall of love from top left: Snapping a picture, Margie Keithley, 10th, and Teresa Carstensen, 11th, pose for a picture in her class. "I was taking pictures of my students for my web page," Keithley said. Taking a break to chat, Teresa Carstensen, and Darryl Carstensen, 11th, were temporarily turned at an angle. Parents have the opportunity to talk to their student's teacher about grades and classroom behavior. Preparing for a future, Eric Schreiber, 10th, teaches his class about the future. This was Schreiber's first year teaching, as well as coaching the girls' track team.

Typing Away

Against all odds, a blind advantage of less prep time. Daniel McCoy, student member, typed a test for his fellow students. "I gave [blind] students," said McCoy. "It's my favorite way to teach."

Like the Judge of That

During an activity day, Tom Wells, physical education teacher, takes over from the blind under an umbrella. The year, 1999, swimming activities were held at the 7th hour in the day of the swimming game, 11 to 12.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

The work keeps on working

Reading carefully, Carolyn Brown, English, grade 10, journal design projects. "I was really impressed with how the projects turned out, and they took a long time to make," said Brown.



Photo by Mark Thier





Teacher Motivation *Keeping students' heads up*

Is your day filled with group projects, class discussions, and creative artwork? It's not art class or 'free day'-it's the teacher's way of keeping students' attention.

Techniques, like the few mentioned above, are often implemented by **Katherine Martinez**, Spanish.

"I start each class off with the 'Question of the Day,'" said Martinez. "I also offer 'puntos' [paper money] for answers and volunteers."

Brian Jennings, English, has another way of keeping kids interested.

"I don't do anything special," said Jennings. "I just try to tie the material in with real life experiences."

With the help of teachers like Jennings and Martinez, who try to make learning fun, every day can seem like 'free day.'

-Amber Hecht



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Having a chat

Listening attentively, Theresa Swetky, French/English, converses with interested parents at open house. Open house was held Thursday, November 1, in the Fresh House.

Mmm, Lunch

Preparing for lunch, food service teacher Timothy Powers garnishes his salad with salad dressing. Powers had station lunch at Marie M. Gray's school on Monday.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Stephanie
Biegle

Imagine preparing for a recital, or for a performance in a famous ballet or musical in Chicago or around the region. Well this comes as second nature to sophomore Stephanie Biegle and she is just getting started. With classes five days a week at either Broad Street Dance Studio or one of a few studios in Chicago, she is definitely talented and serious about what she does.

Biegle has been dancing for nine years and basically loves every minute of it. She has been in productions of the famous ballet *The Nutcracker*.

sponsored by the Chicago Tribune Charities in Chicago, Illinois, and in the Indiana Youth Ballet production of *Peter Pan* around the area, along with many other performances.

"It takes a lot of work and tons of dedication," Biegle said. "But I think that it's definitely worth every minute of it."

Biegle has barely just begun and is not ready to stop. She plans to go on after high school and pursue a career in dance with professional company.

-Brandi Harveth

Volunteer fire fighting may do for now, but Michael Andree Jr. is just getting started. Following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, every day after school and on the weekends Andree answers pages to help put fires out. He has attended school for two years for training and has been volunteer fire fighting for Griffith for a little over a year. After graduation, Andree plans to pursue a career working in Plant Security at U.S. Steel, where he will have the same authorities as a police officer and he will be patrolling the plant in his own patrol car. As soon as his classes are finished and his certificates are completed to become an Emergency



Michael
Andree Jr.

Medical Technician. Andree plans to become a full time fireman at U.S. Steel. The most exciting experience Andree has taken part over the year was when junior Lara Gonzalez's garage and house caught on fire.

"It's not cool to watch peoples things burn, but it's exciting to put the fire out," said Andree. When he turns 21 he plans to transfer to the Hammond Fire Department where his grandfather worked for forty-two years and dedicate himself to saving lives and putting out fires.

-Sara Grudzien

As a fourth grader at St. Catherines School, Lindsay Chapa would sit on the sidelines and watch her mother play volleyball in a league at Morton High School. That was when she decided she wanted to start playing volleyball. She then started taking part in an instructing league that taught her the basic rules to the game. The following year as a fifth grader she took part in the volleyball team for St. Catherine's and she has been part of volleyball teams every year. Besides making Griffith High School's volleyball team for three consecutive years in a row starting her freshman year, this year was her first

year on the varsity team under head coach Michelle Castillo. Other than school volleyball, for the past 4 years Chapa has been playing Dunes volleyball. The Dunes leagues take place during the winter and she practices at Harrison Middle School.

"So I basically come right out of the high school season and right into Dunes," said Chapa. She enjoys the league more because it is less stressful and a lot less intense than school volleyball. Learning new things and keeping herself from getting out of the habit is her main goal during the off season.

-Sara Grudzien



Lindsay
Chapa

or the 1998-1999 school year being his last year at Griffith High School, senior Eddie Covarrubias is doing more than slacking off. As his graduation nears everything is falling into place. Starting at the age of 16 besides getting his license, his goal was to get a real job. Being his first job, little did he know that he would hold a position as 2nd assistant manager at the Arbys store in Munster. He has worked there for almost 2 years. He opens the store and sometimes closes down at night.

Part time work will do for now but he plans to work full time in the summer.



Eddie
Covarrubias

Outside of school and his job, Covarrubias is involved in much more. He has 4 different agencies getting him jobs as an extra in movies and he also promotes products to the public. He has been an extra in the movies *Never been Kissed* and *The Visitors* which will be coming to theaters soon, starring Christina Applegate.

Heading down the road to Columbia College in Illinois, Covarrubias plans to fulfill his acting career by majoring in Management in Entertainment.
-Sara Grudzien

When you think about being 17 and only a junior in high school you think of being carefree. In January of 1999, junior Anthony Pruitt passed out in Mark Swanson's class and was immediately rushed to the emergency room where he eventually found out he has a heart condition. Pruitt has a condition in which there is bulging of the mitro valve which causes blood to wash back up into the upper chamber of his heart. It is called Mitro Valve Prolapse. This doesn't prohibit Pruitt from anything except from caffeine and smoking (which he does not do anyway), just as long as he gets his exercise by running, swimming and maintaining

a good diet. Before receiving an operation or even getting his teeth cleaned, Pruitt has to take antibiotics, two hours before and after the procedures. He has always had high blood pressure but he never expected to find that he had a heart condition. Things were a little hazy at first when he saw his first physician. When he received word that he might need an operation he got a second opinion which kept him in the clear. Even though he did not need an operation, he still has to take proper precautions.

-Sara Grudzien

Anthony
Pruitt



Kara
Kmieciak



How would you like taking risks every time you participate in something you really enjoy? Well this is all a reality for junior Kara Kmiec. For the past seven years, Kmiec has been competing and practicing trampoline at TNT Twisters Tumbling and Trampoline in Highland, and in October of 1998, she went to Sydney, Australia to compete in the World Age Group Games. Kmiec enjoys her sport for many different reasons.

"I enjoy my sport because not many people do it (trampoline)," Kmiec said. "It keeps me in shape, it's fun, it involves taking lots of risks, it is really challenging, and I like to travel."

At the moment Kmiec is undecided about what to do further in trampoline and tumbling. Also, Kmiec has participated on the GHS swimming and diving team and says all of her trampoline and tumbling work has helped her with her diving. She's still going to jump because she enjoys it, even if she doesn't continue to compete in the future.

-Brandi Harveth



David
Moore

Being an E2 Second Class Private in the National Guard became a reality for junior David Moore. About 6 months ago, Moore decided to enlist after he met a recruiter in the hall of GHS.

"I was walking in the hallway and saw a recruiter standing by the office, and I started talking with him," Moore said. "He called me later and I met with him. Then I decided to enlist."

Moore enjoys the Guard because it gives him a chance to see other places besides Indiana, and his best friend, Dan Bruce, from Highland is in it with him. Also he wants to stay in the

National Guard for awhile.

"I plan to stay in it [the National Guard] long enough so that I can retire from it and receive retirement pay," Moore said. "I hope to work my way up to First Sergeant."

Along with being in the Guard, Moore enjoys many different things. He likes to hang out and drive around with his friends, go dancing, fishing, play volleyball, and many other things. Also, he has rollerbladed for the past two years.

-Brandi Harveth

Valedictorian is what Laura Zagrocki is to the graduating class of 1999.

"Once I found out I was valedictorian, I decided I should keep going for it," said Zagrocki.

Taking all the Advanced Placement classes available to keep her class rank has really paid off. In the winter Zagrocki received the Valedictorian Scholarship but that was just one among the various received. She has been awarded two more scholarships which include the Dye Scholarship that will pay for her tuition, and the Hoosier Scholarship. Zagrocki plans



Laura
Zagrocki

to attend Indiana University in the fall where she will be majoring in either pre-med or pre-optometry. She plans to get her doctorate in either of the paths that she chooses.

Aside from it all, Zagrocki can simply say that her senior year was her favorite memory while attending Griffith High School. Her goals were set and now they are achieved. She pushed herself to become all she could be, and now she has been recognized for her accomplishments.

-Sara Grudzien

Making people laugh, changing personalities, or even just putting on a fake accent is what junior Mike Cservenak is all about. He has acted in plays such as *Pippen*, *Don't Mention My Name*, and *Sweet Charity*, among other shows. Also, his skit of Monty Python won Best of Show in the GHS Talent Show. Aside from acting in plays, he has been taking classes for comedy improv at The Second City in Chicago for the past five months.

"I heard about it, and have been in shows before," he said. "So I looked it [The Second City] up on the Internet and called."

In his past show, *Sweet Charity*, he portrayed Vitorio Vidal. It was his favorite

lead so far.

"I like that lead the best," he said. "I liked doing the Italian accent."

Cservenak would like to pursue a career in acting in the future. Also, he would like to direct the play next year.

"It's always been my dream," he said. "I'll go with it wherever it takes me and if I'm successful in acting."

He has learned a lot from his acting career that can be applied into everyday life.

"One thing I have learned is that you can screw up anywhere in life," he said. "but not on stage."

-Brandi Harveth



Mike
Cservenak

Almost every weekend you can find sophomore Joshua Moon getting pelted by dime size paintball pellets. For the past three years, he has been paintballing at Blast Camp, in Hobart, after one of his friends asked him to go paintballing for the very first time. He was so fascinated that he wanted to go back.

"It was so exciting," he said. "There's such a thrill in being shot at with pellets."

There are many reasons to go paintballing, according to Moon.

"Paintballing relieves a lot of stress," he said. "And it gives me lots of good



Joshua Moon

exercise."

Along with Moon, junior Matthew Najar, and sophomores Jason Schultz and Christopher Peacock go paintballing with him most of the time. Their team is named Team Voodoo.

Besides paintballing, Josh has many other hobbies. He plays golf and soccer for GHS as well as in his free time. He also enjoys swimming.

-Brandi Harveth

Dayna Scheeringa



Imagine living and helping to care for foster children from all over the world. Well this comes natural for senior Dayna Scheeringa. She is the only natural child with six other adopted children, and many foster children.

"We do this because we love children," she said. "And because we love to help people who can't help themselves."

Also, Scheeringa travels to South America to help people who are poor and who are in need of medical attention. Her mother brings children with many different disabilities up to Chi-

cago to try to help them.

"I do all I can to help my mom with her job," she said.

When Scheeringa turns 21 she would like to adopt a little girl who has been living with her for three years, but she has to wait till she is 21.

"There are so many processes for adopting a child," she said. "You have to be 21, have a job and be stable."

Scheeringa plans on having children of her own some day along with the children that she adopts.

-Brandi Harveth

Have you ever heard the phrase "they look alike, they talk alike and sometimes even walk alike?" Well this is the truth for freshmen Hillary and Mallory Bernath. The two have developed a relationship while growing up and have become inseparable.

"We go everywhere together," Mallory said. "At least our friends don't mix us up that much anymore."

With being so close, Hillary and Mallory enjoy the same

activities. They have danced at Jeanne's Dance Academy since they were three when their parents got them involved. Also, this past year they started student teaching there.

"It's really fun and keeps us both fit," Hillary said.

Aside from dance, they also enjoy television, rollerblading, sewing, among many other things. The two are definitely a mirror image.

-Brandi Harveth



Hillary and Mallory Bernath

Time for Work

Besides school, homework, sports and extracurricular activities, some students had one more thing to worry about- a part-time job. While some lucked out with not having to work throughout their high school career, others found it necessary to survive and some even liked working.

Many students found jobs in the food industry, at local restaurants such as McDonald's, Subway, Dairy Queen, Burger King, Wendy's, while others worked at the new Big K (K-Mart), Show-place 16 or Meijer.

After work, students also patronized many local businesses by getting their senior pictures taken at Titak Photography in Schererville and buying their class rings at Griffith Jewelers. Some found a place to eat in downtown Griffith, at Boz's Hot Dogs, Bridges Scoreboard, Dave and Lee's Restaurant, or Villa Pizza.

Many students found convenience in the new Split Second gas station in Griffith, and others traveled to Plaza Lanes or the Daily Perk for entertainment or a sweet treat.

Whether it was working for or just paying a visit to one of local hangouts, Griffith High School students contributed and made themselves a part of the community in every way. -Nicole Voges



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Bagging groceries, junior Amy Theodosio gets ready to help a customer out to his car. Theodosio has worked at the Strada and Vanilla's in Highland for over a year.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.





Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Painting a sign on a business window, sophomore Jennifer Vaznonis participates in an event meant to raise spirit and pride during the football season. As co-president of Bowdoin Club, Vaznonis helped plan such events as window painting, along with decorating the gym, roller-skating and winter clothing drive.

Working the cash register, sophomore Sarah Handley waits for a customer at Dairy Queen. Like Handley, many students took on part-time jobs at fast-food restaurants to help pay for cars, to save for college or just for extra spending money.

Time for some grub...

...at Bennigan's

"I like to eat at Bennigan's," said sophomore **Ashley Wilson**. "They have the best food in the world."

...at Round the Clock

"We eat at Round the Clock all the time," said junior **Julie Newman**. "They are the only place open really late."

...at Hooters

"I like to eat at Hooters because they have good hamburgers," said sophomore **Mario Ruff**. "The chicken wings are good too."

...at a friend's house

"My favorite place to eat is at my friend **Laura Blahunka's house**," said freshman **Kim Reyome**. "She always has good food."

Steven Laurinas

Having you for a son is the best part of our lives. Always remember how much we love and believe in you.

Love,
Mom and Dad



Sarah Jansen

Dear Sarah,

You are a precious precious gift. We love you dearly. You have grown up to be a responsible young lady. And you are a giver. Sarah, both at home and at school. What a delight it has been at tonight's event. Your innocent and playful presentation you have been involved in. Making the most of your high school years you have done. No one will take these memories from you. Keep up the good work!

Mom and Dad, Brian and Richard, and Col



Gill Palmer

To Gill,

Congratulations and good luck in the future. May all your dreams come true, ours have for being related to someone as special as you.

Love always and forever,
Dad, Mom, Grandma, Grandpa, Sara,
Amie, Aunt Patty, Uncle Steve and
Danny



Vanessa Hughes

Vanessa,

You've come a long way baby. Congratulations! We're so proud of you. Your determination will bring you success. Best of luck in all that you do. There will always be a special place in our hearts for you.

Reach for the stars.

I love you,
Mom, Emie, Dave, Teddy, and Emily



Gill Palmer

I could have said a million things from the start. First day born in Suburban Lake County, January 1st, 1984. Jill Leigh Anne Palmer. I tried not to be special. I never forget the laughs, smiles, and tears were shared. You're an extraordinary person, and I'm proud of you. Remember great rain at 10:00 PM on our 10th birthday! Congratulations on your graduation. I know you can see the NFL camp now go. It's your turn Peachy.

Breat time.

Love,
Mom



Sara Grudzien

Sara,

It seems like yesterday you were our little "dobber" and sister. We've watched you grow into a beautiful young woman. You've been through some tough times, but you persevere. We are very proud of you and wish you the best of luck and time. We wish you success in achieving your goals and hope all your dreams come true. Be true to yourself and you will find happiness.

Love you,
Mom, Dad, Noel and Mike



Gill Palmer

To the best big sister!

Love,
Sara and Amie



Steve Steinbach

Dear Steve,

Your family has watched you struggle, work hard, and succeed. Your name and talent have combined with education. This has aquired responsibility without question. We are proud. And it's time for him to move on.

We're with you every step of the way. Just remember the values and love you've learned through life and mind. Love that we wish you. Dad, Mom, Nicole and Grandma. R.S. May all your dreams come true.



Traci Duncan

Our Dear Traci,

Congratulations on an outstanding high school career. Keep up your great sense of humor and your desire to succeed, and you will achieve all your hopes and dreams throughout your life.

We love you dearly,
Mom and Dad



Scott Gierman

From pre-school graduation to high school graduation, we have watched you grow. Now it is time for the next step.

You are ready!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Allison and Emily



Christopher Troksa

Congratulations,

you are a special gift to all of us. We are very proud of the person you have become. Thank you for all the wonderful memories we have shared with you for the last 15 years. You have an award-winning smile, so keep on smiling. I don't know if I did, you know, Chris. Believe in yourself and you can accomplish anything.

With love and pride,
Mom, Dad, Jill and Megan



Jeremy Buzea

Congratulations,

time flies when you are having fun. It has been these years (hard work and good fun) that you have been a blessing to us and treasure every memory and moment yet to come. When you become a parent, yourself, think they will truly understand the magnitude of a great life. Your brothers and us up to you so very much, and for that you should be proud.

We love you,
Dad, Mom, Jordan and Cassidy



David Carnahan

David,

Congratulations! We are very proud of you and all your accomplishments. We wish you much success and happiness in life. We will always be there for you.

Love,
Mom and Dad



Jamie Foy

Congratulations Jamie,

We are very proud of you and admire the beautiful young woman you've become. Your self confidence, good sense of humor, and caring personality will be an asset to you throughout your life. Thank you for filling our lives with joy and laughter.

Never forget how very much you are loved.
Mom and Dad

Cynthia McFadden

Cindy,

Congratulations and best wishes. Always remember to smile!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Kelly and Joshua



Jamie Foy

Jamie,

May the force be with you!

Congratulations!

Love,
Uncle, Aunt, and Ray

Angela Kozup

Angie,

You have grown up to be a beautiful young lady with a good heart. We are very proud of the person you have become and we love you very much. You will always be our little girl.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Sis



Bridgette Wayo

Bridgette,

Congratulations to our little girl! You're the last to walk the halls of Griffith High. May your life be filled with good health, happiness and success. We'll always be here for you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Michelle, and Joe



Clint Konopasek

Clint,

You've filled our hearts and our home with wonderful friends, plenty of laughter, and unforgettable memories.

May God's blessings follow your new road.... we wish you life's best.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Corey



Jenny Redar

Jennifer,

What a job well done. We are so proud of you and hope all your dreams come true. You are very special to us and we love you so much. Thanks for all the memories we've shared. You are a GPEAT daughter and sister. Good luck in all that you do. I know you will reach your goals. We will always be there for you.

Love always,
Mom, Dad, and Lisa

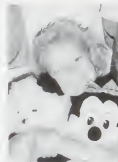


Nicole Voges

Congratulations Nicole...

We are so proud of you. You have accomplished so much in 18 years. We thank you for the memories you've given us. Good luck at Ball State, and may all your dreams come true. We love you very much.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Ryan



Amanda Kasper

Amanda,

Congratulations! We are so very proud of all your accomplishments at GHS. As you leave high school, may all your dreams and wishes come true. You deserve only the very best. Whatever you choose to do, we will be there for you 100%.

Love,
Mom, Dad and Grandma Kasper



Jacqueline Rousseau

Dear Jackie,

It was so wonderful to watch a patient customer when you were taking your first steps. In a sense, you're taking your first steps as a young adult, stepping into the world, and the same feeling is true. I see only good things in your future, for sure, you're such a good person and a hard worker.

Love,
Mom



Kristy Florey

Kristy,

Congratulations. We are so proud of you. We wish you the very best as you start another chapter in your life. We know you will continue your education and become a great teacher. Just remember we love you, and we will always be there for you. You're the best.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Katie, and Scott



Sarah Kerr

We are so proud of you. You have given me so many precious memories. Good luck in all you choose to do. Always remember what a special person you are.

We love you,
Mom, Russ, and Pat



Jessie Michels

Jessie,

Thank you for being such a wonderful daughter. We're so very proud of the beautiful young lady you've become. Our love and support goes with you as you start college.

Love always,
Mom, Dad, Matt, and Danny



Sarah Kerr

Congratulations Sarah! I'm very proud of you. Reach for the stars dear, and always remember that

I love you.

Grandma



Amanda Jennings

Amanda,

We are very proud of you, not only for your accomplishments in school, but for the kind and caring person you have become. You are our angel, and we know your wings will take you to a great place.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Emily, Amy, Jaime, Jeremy, and Alexis

Kelley Zarndt

Dear Kelley,

Eighteen years past you brought such much happiness and love to our family. What a beautiful young lady. I like to think you lady has been a wonderful experience. You have become a beautiful, intelligent and loving person, one with her own ideas and ideas. You have always made us proud and I know you will continue to do so. Many, many years from now we will look back on you taking your first steps as a person. Always remember I know you will be all that you desire in life. To our darling daughters, and for the stars. Be happy and know how much you are loved. Mom and Dad... 1991



Rebecca Amos

Congratulations Beck!! You've done a wonderful job. You are quite a young lady and I am so very proud of you and what you have achieved. I am so confident you will go far. You have a lot of determination and you never give up. I love you Beck and am very proud.

Love,
Mom



Jennifer Huesken

Dear Jennifer,

This day you were born, our dream came true. You are a "miracle." Thanks for all the "Pood wai" moments. We are filled with joy and pride at your many successes and accomplishments. We love you and will always be behind you, fighting you up in prayer. You have always made us proud to be called,
Mom and Dad



Rebecca Amos

Becky,

You are our first grandchild and our only granddaughter. You have had a smile on your face since we first met you at six months. All the turmoil in your life and you still bounce back smiling. Good luck in your career choice and your future. Keep smiling sweetheart.

Love,
Grandma and Grandpa Whitehead

Nikki Dimovski

Nikki,

We can't tell you enough how proud of you we are. You're wonderful daughter and young woman. It's time for college now and it seems like just yesterday was your first day of kindergarten.

We love you very much.
Mom, Pop (Dad), and Cathy

Tony Papa

Tony,

The future is yours. Let nothing interfere with your dreams and goals. Never get discouraged by life's obstacles. Face each setback as a challenge. Rise to the challenge. Your friends and family will always be there to share in your accomplishments as well as your shortcomings. Be yourself...Enjoy life!

Love,
Mom, Dad and Matt



Kyle Plesniak

Congratulations Kyle

Love,
Mom and Dad
Grammas, Maggie and Martha

Nicole Huber

Dear Nicole,

You've given us so much joy. We are proud of all your accomplishments. Set your goals high, and we know that you will succeed in anything you put your heart and mind to. We hope you will always find happiness with the choices you make.

We all love you very much.
Mom, Dad, Natalie, and Pochele



Melisa Smilowski

Since the day you were born you have brought joy and happiness not only to me but to our family. I am confident knowing whatever path you choose with your morals and intelligence it will be the right one, and lucky for those who cross it.

I'm very proud of you.
Mom

Bob Malo

Bob,

Congratulations. Thank you for being a wonderful son and big brother. We are so proud of you. Wishing you continued success and happiness. Hope all your dreams come true. God bless you. We'll always be there for you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Tim and Joe



Marisa Garibay

Marise,

Congratulations! We are very proud of you and all your accomplishments. You are so talented. Believe in yourself and your dreams will come true.

Love always,
Dad, Mom, Susan, Pamori, and Timothy



Nathan Ramsey

Nathan,

You finally made it! We are very proud of you. Continue to keep your faith and always do your best. You're great and we love you.
Mom and Dad



Melissa Steapleton

Congratulations Melissa!

We are so proud of your academic accomplishments. Thanks for all the memories swimming, choir, Honor Society, etc. Remember to keep God first in your life and how much we love you and believe in you. We will miss you very much while you are away at college.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Megan



Tammy Martin

Tammy,

When you were born, it was one of the happiest moments of our lives. Watching you grow and learn how to walk, talk and be a caring individual was so rewarding. Doing well in school, learning to drive well, working hard in all you do, always making us so very proud. You've turned out to be everything we've ever dreamed of in a daughter.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Joe

Patrick Fuentes

We are very proud of you son. Keep up your great musical talents. Remember what's important in life and that we'll always be there for you. Good luck at Ball State.

Love,
From all of us



Kelly Schoeffel

My beautiful Billy,

To my sweet daughter, always do your best and what is in your heart. Never let anybody or anything hold you back. You are a very special young woman and you make my life worth living. May God bless and keep you always. Fantastic future. Congratulations 99. Good future with health, happiness and peace.

Love,
Mom



Suzanne Wargo

We are very proud of you and all that you have and will accomplish. We know you will achieve all that you desire to cause you have such determination. Trust strong will take all times and the patience of a saint, but it is what will help you to accomplish all that you set out to do. Your brother has at times thought you to be a pain but loves you just the same.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Jerome



Katrina Schmell



Remember I loved you first.
Love,
Mom

Paul Dudley

It's hard to believe your high school days are over. It seems like yesterday that they gave you my arms. I've made me happy, and I thank you for you. I've watched you grow into a fine young man, and I'm proud of you. You walk into a new life, searching new adventures. With the help of God, I know you'll achieve whatever you set. Remember, I'll always love you, and be there for you.

Love,
Mom



Chad Lukas

Never dull. Thanks for making our lives fun. We love you and wish you nothing but happiness.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Brad, and Adam



Amber Scartozzi

Renee'
Soyez be'ni en tous se
que vous faits.

Love,
Mom



Josh Martin

Joshua,

A grandson with integrity,
intelligence, imagination and
intuitiveness. Follow your dreams
and you'll go far.

We're proud of you.

Love,
Grandma & Grandpa
Martin



Mike Andree Jr.

Mike Jr.,

From the time you took your first step you have
had the excitement of watching Daddy go by
the house in the fire truck and now you ride the
fire truck. Mike types and dreams have come
true. You took on a big responsibility to help
others and that's great. But when duty calls,
be very careful and look at what's in front of you
and lift your way.

Congratulations on we are so proud of you.

We love you!
Mom, Dad and brother Eric



Nicole Voges

Surprise Nicole,

This has been an incredible year and you have been happy
to let everything rest on your shoulders. I've never had
to do so little as an adviser, which was really nice. I'm not
only proud of you for your leadership, but for the quality
journalism work you did in this last book of the millennium.

There's no doubt in my mind you'll be a huge success
some day soon. I can't wait to read your byline in Vogue.

Love,
Miss Brown

P.S. Thanks for
babysitting pumpkin

Jan Flores

Jan,

We find (praise) a person who has become
your friend and friend (praise) you! so many
times, seeing your smile is worth more than
you will ever know. You have been and always
will be what a son and brother are meant to be.
You have shown a good example. Keep on
the path you have followed and you will be a
success.

Love,
Dad, Mom, and Jane



Dennis Swender

Dennis,

And you thought Fay's job was easy. Being a leader is never
easy - there are so many women. I have to tell you though
that you have handled all of them well. I'm so glad I talked you
into staying, Dennis, because I've really enjoyed working with
you. Your contributions to this book cannot be measured, and
I hope you enjoy "reflecting" back on it as much as I now will.

Good luck even though you probably won't need it.

Love,
Miss Brown

William Torres

Ant,
Congratulations! You made it.
We are very proud of you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Missy



Sara Grudzien

Sara,

Thank's for some great memories this year. The only
thing I'm really unhappy about is that you didn't take
journalism earlier. I really enjoyed working with you and
spending lunch with you and the others. Keep smiling,
'cause you're beautiful, forget all the ugly jokes.

Love,
Miss Brown

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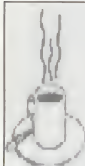
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Once in a Lifetime

As the doors of GHS closed to the last school year of the millenium, many of the 962 students who attended had big plans for the end of the school year and for the summer. Honor Society closed out the year by holding their annual blood drive in April and raising money for cystic fibrosis in May. Many organizations were busy electing officers for the next year and sports were holding call-out meetings for the following season. The baseball team made it to regionals, where they lost to Kankakee Valley. After all the banquets, the top ten dinner, recognition night, senior ditch day and final exams, students found that the end of the year went by rather quickly. Through tragic events, students managed to unite together and become closer.

Between summer school courses and drivers education that the school offered, summer sports programs and part-time jobs, underclassmen had plenty of opportunities to keep busy until the next school year. Graduated seniors became busy getting ready for college with summer orientation and registration, while some were starting their careers early.

At graduation, which was held in the varsity gym, Laura Zagrocki, valedictorian, Karl Grimmer, salutatorian and Jennifer Vazonis, class president gave speeches to the senior class about the past, the future and everything in between. After commencement, many-continued on next page



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Diligently performing his duties, senior Anthony Oruse does morning and evening routines of hanging and taking down the flag which flies every day at graduation.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Heading to a computer competition, junior Ramon Rocha, Justin Falk, Joshua Rainford and Eric Salczynski leave school for the day. Rocha, Falk and Salczynski took 4th place at St. Joseph's University.

Making a poster on a tablecloth, senior Traci Duncan helps decorate the gym the night before a basketball game. In December 2000, Duncan helped other students decorate the gym, posters and ball of knowledge for different classes.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Standing by senior Jacqueline Rousseau's side, Terri Svetky, obviously, shows off her new hat as Rousseau shuffles through some papers. Svetky also taught French, and Rousseau had been taking French for many years.

Sitting in on a Remnant meeting, a sophomore Elisabeth Helfen listens intently. Helfen had participated in the Remnant Summer for Freshman year.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Gingalittetug, senior Joshua Tristan, pulls hard during Artfest Day. Tristan also will host his at their home banquet.

Waiting to receive their diplomas, seniors Jerry Dalach, Benjamin Debaus, and Joan Doppler participate in commencement ceremonies.

Getting ready for a picture, the boys' basketball team lined up on the bleachers in the gym. Sponsors Barbara Debeget and Russ Radtke helped organize the picture with the top ten in front and every other row with boys and girls.

Getting a haircut, sophomore Philip Schoenberg participates in the first ever Career Fair sponsored by DECA. The fair was held in the fieldhouse and businesses from all over were asked to participate.

Photo by Dennis J. Swander Jr.



Photo by Matt Fluter

And You May Ask Yourself...

...how did I make it?

"I did a lot of studying, paid attention and had study parties with my friends," said junior Lora Melton.

...what am I going to do now?

"This being my final summer of true freedom, I'm going to try and experience as many new things as possible before I go away to college," said senior Joshua Martin.

...what was the best part?

"The best thing about this year was probably Prom," said junior Matthew Sherry. "Everyone was there together and we had a lot of fun."

Reflecting on the game, senior Jeremy Buzza said, "After the score was tied, the Panthers won their sectional game against Highland. 'We [seniors] felt we had to win the game or we would have failed,' said Buzza. 'It was exciting after we won and it was a very emotional time.'



Once in a Lifetime

-continued from previous page newfound freedom by having grad parties and open houses, and going to places like the beach, the drive-in or miniature golfing with their friends.

Though many changes occurred during the year, students managed to adapt to new rules and overcome obstacles that they faced. Some students, especially seniors, would miss things about school, like certain friends and teachers that they felt they might never see again. One thing they could hold on to was their memory of GHS and the school year that was filled with many *Once in a Lifetime* experiences.

-Nicole Voges



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.



Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Working on their final project, sophomores Mark Govert and Michael Tomaszewski make a presentation in their computer applications class. They must work on work with a clarity using the techniques they had learned in the class.

Flipping through a magazine, seniors Amanda Marcus, David Camahan and Danyel Porter spend the time away from their work at Pinegrove. All three are seniors and their senior from May.

Photo by Dennis J. Swender Jr.

Colophon

The yearbook was printed by Herff, Jones at 6015 Travel Lane, Shawnee Mission, KS 66201-2343. 1,008 books were purchased in sales held between August and February and then again by credit card only in March between the prices of \$35-\$50. The cover of the book is white, the photograph with gloss lamination, black ink and gold foil stamp. The front and back endsheets and the first two flats in the first signature are spot colored with Herff Jones color HJ 960 Gold and all pages are printed on Bordeaux Special 100# paper stock.

The cover, end sheets, title page, opening, closing and divider pages were designed by Nicole Voges. The student life section was designed by Eric Salczynski, the clubs section by Amanda Grcevich, the sports section by Jessica Everhart, the academics section by Susan Huss, the people section by Sara Grudzien, and the ads section by Rebecca Amos. A copy on the opening, closing and dividers was written by Nicole Voges and the index was assembled by Josh Martin. All photos for the Year in Review spreads were obtained from the Associated Press.

The Reflector staff is a member of the Indiana High School Press Association and Gull and Scroll Society. As in past years, the staff won many local and national awards for their work. The Reflector was a runner up for the Hoosier Star Award and received recognition at IHSPA State and JEA National Conventions, as well as at Ball State University's Journalism Day.

The goal of the yearbook staff was simple: finish the yearbook by the end of the school year with as few mistakes as possible. No problem. The creation of the book all started in Muncie, IN at Ball State's Summer Journalism Workshops when Nicole Voges and Josh Martin developed the theme "Once in a Lifetime" after taking their theme development and new directions and innovations in yearbook design courses. The theme was then developed and perfected by the staff editors over the course of the year.

The book was created in the J-room using eight Power Macintosh 5500/100 LC and four Macintosh LC II computers, two LaserWriter 16/600 PSprinters and two scanners, a UMAX Astra 1200S and an Apple OneScanner. The software used was Aldus PageMaker 5.0, Ofoto 1.1 and Linc's Works 4.0. Fonts included in the theme sections were Cyclone and Kiang MT, in the student life section Catchup, Palatino and Futura BT. Bold Condensed were used, in the clubs section Big Daddy, Amaze and Fritz were used, in the sports section Bodoni MT Ultra Bold and Nadanne were used, in the academic section New Berrina and Ardan were used, and in the people section Dragon Norma, Bookman Light and Amaze were used. All stories were written in Times and all captions were written in Bueprint.

All candid photos were shot by staff photographers on Kodak T-Max 400 and 3200 speed black and white and color film. Over 7,200 frames were shot by staff photographers. All student produced black and white photos were printed by the student photographers in the J-room dark room on Kodak Fomylcontrast III RC black and white paper. Team and group pictures and faculty and senior pictures were produced by Larry Titat, and all underclassmen pictures were produced by Interstate Studios, Inc. All senior pictures were developed by Dennis Swender Jr. at One Hour Photo.

The staff would like to thank their parents for all their support and patience, their yearbook adviser Carolyn Brown for her advice and time, their yearbook representative Lisa Hepburn-Keene and the faculty, administration and student body for their support.

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Reflector Staff



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